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Last year there was only one. This year there's been three. What's going on?

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Starting March 1, smoke alarms are required on all floors of a building

THE ART OF FARMING
Waverly Brook Farms offers new program along with shared agriculture

THE ECHO
HALIBURTON COUNTY

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 7, 2006 VOL. 124 NO. 5 $1 INCL. GST

Union says MTO changes make roads unsafe

LANCE CROSSLEY
Staff Reporter

A civil service union is accusing the government of endangering lives by cutting the number of highway winter patrols during peak traffic hours in the Parry Sound, Muskoka, and Haliburton County area.

Patrol staff under the Ministry of Transportation are responsible for monitoring weather and road conditions during the winter months. They are also in charge of deciding when and where to deploy contractors for salting, sanding, and plowing.

This year, staff are working under a new contract that the union says has cut the number patrollers on area highways during peak hours when school buses are on the road.

Catherine Hamilton, President of Local 319 of the Ontario Public Service Employees Union, believes this means too few patrol staff covering too many miles to be able to make informed decisions. As an example, she tells of a recent journey from Parry Sound to Bracebridge, where she encountered various segments of highway that had rain, wet snow, and a blizzard – all within one trip.

"We are extremely concerned that this ill-considered cost-cutting will end up costing lives," said Hamilton in a press release.

The union says the MTO cut back staff from the peak hours of 5 a.m.-11 a.m. and 1:30 p.m.-7:30 p.m. – hours when school buses carry children to school.

The MTO denies there has been any reduction in the number of patrol staff, instead saying there has only been a

See **MTO** *page 9*

DARREN LUM/Echo

Gotcha!
As the sun sets young girls take aim, with snowballs in hand, at their friend in front of the Delta Pinestone Resort. After a slow start, winter has arrived in earnest with plenty of snow on the trails and in the hills.

Is minimum wage a living wage?

Although it just went up it's still tough to cover costs

LANCE CROSSLEY
Staff Reporter

DARREN LUM/Echo

Andrew Wherry knows how difficult it is to make ends meet with a low wage. The provincial government recently increased minimum wage to $7.75 an hour but critics say it's not nearly enough.

The numbers just do not add up for Andrew Wherry. A full-time employee at Haliburton Subway, his pay hovers around minimum wage. He works hard so he can meet support payments for his two-year-old son. He even manages to cover the considerable costs of gas and insurance for his 1992 Mercury Topaz, a necessity in a rural community without public transportation.

But something inevitably has to give when you only clear $1,100 a month, which is why he relies on his parents, who provide food and offer their living space for only $200 in monthly rent.

"You can't rent a place and own a vehicle at the same time while making minimum wage, especially for a male under 25 because insurance for cars is through the roof," says the 19-year-old.

Last week, the provincial government raised minimum wage 30 cents to $7.75. It's the third time the Liberals have raised the standard since taking office in 2003 and they promise to raise it again to $8 an hour next year. But can people in the real world live off these wages?

Wherry, who was making $7.60 an hour before the latest wage increase, recently stumbled upon a rare deal when he found a place to rent for only $400. However, moving out of his parents' quickly proved to be impossible after calculating he would only have about $50 to spare at the end of the month – and that was without eating. Never mind all the unforeseen expenses that inevitably emerge in life.

"I applaud the direction [the government] is going but even a single person can't live off of $16,000 a year," says Fay Martin, executive director of Family Services Haliburton County. "Minimum wage is good as far as it goes but we have to start thinking about a working wage. If a person works, they should be able to live on it."

See **Minimum** *page 2*

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Minimum wage lags behind poverty line

from page 1

Thirty years ago minimum wage salaries were about 10 per cent below the poverty line. Nowadays it's about 30 per cent below the poverty line, as measured by the 2003 before-tax low income cutoffs.

Indeed, the recent wage increases seem somewhat less impressive when you consider that the Mike Harris government froze the minimum wage at $6.85 an hour for nearly a decade. Since the mid-90s, oil and real estate have exploded, leaving minimum wage earners running out of things to cut back on.

It's a problem affecting the whole country. According to a recent report, minimum wage earners in Toronto and Vancouver would have to be making nearly twice their salary in order to afford an average bachelor apartment in the city (assuming that 30 per cent of their salary goes toward rent, a figure that is generally agreed upon as a reasonable amount to spend on living space). While the cost of living is lower in Haliburton County, lack of public transportation and lack of affordable housing make minimum wage just as much a problem for rural areas. A modest one-bedroom accommodation in Haliburton could easily eat up more than half the net salary of a local minimum-wage earner.

Some argue that any considerable jump in minimum wage would only end up hurting business owners. Steve Davies, general manager of The Bargain Shop, says the recent increase will not adversely affect his bottom line but suggests there is a limit to how much he can afford.

"[The 30-cent increase] affects it a bit but it's not enough to worry about," he says. "But if everybody was making $10 an hour, it would certainly hurt the bottom line, that's for sure."

Fay Martin doesn't buy the argument that a high minimum wage would hurt business. "When people make money, they spend money," she says.

While the economic debate of an acceptable minimum wage lingers on, Andrew Wherry figures he will just have to make due with his own bottom line. "Without my parents being there to give me a place to stay for next to nothing, I'd probably be living out of my car."

Dr. Suzuki talk is Thursday

Dr. David Suzuki is supporting efforts to re-open the Leslie M. Frost Natural Resources Centre. Suzuki is making a special presentation on environmental learning and stewardship on Thursday, February 9 at the University of Toronto.

"We are very grateful and honoured to have David Suzuki speak on our behalf. It makes our task of submitting a proposal to the government so much easier. He is an inspiration," says Max Radiff, president of the Friends of the Frost Centre, a non-profit organization making a bid to re-open and operate the popular outdoor learning centre.

After the Ontario government abruptly closed the Frost Centre in July 2004, Suzuki, in the heat of a widespread protest campaign, sent a letter to the government. He wrote, "Environmental/outdoor education programs must not be considered marginal activities to be sacrificed when times are tough. In fact, they are absolutely crucial if our children today are going to face an uncertain future with any hope of understanding and solution."

Visit www.friendsofthefrostcentre.ca for details.

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Wacky winter leads to bus cancellations

MARTHA PERKINS
Editor

If this winter's icy roads are making you grip your steering wheel a little bit tighter, imagine what it's like to be a bus driver with up to 70 young charges sitting behind you.

So far this year, buses in Haliburton County have been cancelled three times because of unsafe road conditions. Drivers who had to get young students home in the midst of the ice storm on Tuesday, January 17 wish there had been a fourth day when they didn't have to navigate the Highlands' slippery roads.

Last winter buses were cancelled only once because of the weather.

"This winter has just been so bizarre," says David Freeman, branch manager of Laidlaw bus services in Haliburton. Asked whether this year has been normal in terms of how many bus cancellations there have been, he says, "Given the weather, there is no normal."

Every morning, he has the unenviable task of deciding whether to send the county's 87 school buses out on the roads. He gauges whether the roads are safe using several factors: his own drive to work along municipal, county and provincial roads, telephone conversations with various contacts throughout the county, and Environment Canada's weather predictions.

The decision has to be made before 6:15 a.m., when the first bus rolls out of the yard.

On January 30 he made the call to cancel buses even though it turned out to be a clear day on the roads. Given the morning's conditions, however, he's glad he erred on the side of caution.

"When I made the call it was raining, the roads departments were plowing and the bared ice was getting washed," he says. Rain was freezing on the road and there had been calls for freezing rain.

Later that week, buses weren't cancelled on a day that saw one bus getting stuck in the wet snow.

On the morning of January 17, Freeman had no idea the day would end so badly for his drivers. Just as buses pulled out of school grounds, freezing rain began to turn county roads into ribbons of skating rinks.

"It was a stressful enough day for all of us but the roads departments, all of them, were just fantastic. Awesome," Freeman says. "With some buses they literally had to sand in front of them.

"They've just gone above and beyond this year."

The drivers are coping well with the road conditions, he says. Asked if some drivers ask not to have certain routes – can you imagine having to go up or down Scotch Line Road West on an icy day? – he says that drivers often surprise themselves.

"I always say 'Give it a shot and you might be able to pull it off.' One of our longest-serving drivers had said she'd never drive in the winter. She started in March and kept on going. That was 27 years ago."

All drivers are trained and the company provides constant upgrading.

"Our drivers are awesome," Freeman says. "It takes a lot of good nerves and a lot of patience."

The bus service gets very few complaints when there's a cancellation. Sometimes a parent is upset about plans gone awry, but for the most part "people have been very understanding."

DARREN LUM/Echo
Last year there was only one bus cancellation. Freezing rain and icy roads have led to three so far this year. Some wish there had been a fourth.

Calling all artists: small schools need you

LANCE CROSSLEY
Staff Reporter

Two schools in Highlands East will benefit from a special program that lets local artists help flesh out the curriculum student are working on. The program, co-ordinated by the local Arts Council, was a pilot project last year at Wilberforce and has expanded this time around to include Cardiff Elementary.

"We focused on these two schools because they're small and they don't have the same resources the larger schools have," says Jim Blake, who coordinates the Artists-in-the-School program. "And also because a lot of times, Highlands East just gets left out."

The purpose is to integrate art into the general curriculum instead of delegating it to the margins of school life. Last year, artists helped bring medieval history from the abstract to the concrete by involving students in making medallions, baskets, and even goblet glass-blowing. Other grades learned about the eco-system by trying to paint nature with watercolours. This year will incorporate clay art into lessons on soil as well as aboriginal and early pioneer crafts to learn about Canada's fur trade history prior to 1812.

Grade 5 and 6 students at Wilberforce Elementary learned about watercolour painting last year as part the Artists-in-the-School program. The program is expanding this year to include students from Cardiff Elementary.

"It gives the students an opportunity to work with real artists," says Wilberforce Principal Birdie Murphy. "It just opens up another world of experience, information, and ideas to them."

Murphy believes it also provides talented students real-life examples of people who manage to live in the county and make their living as artists. As art is deemed a significant sector of the future local economy, it may serve to expand that industry and encourage young people to stay in the county.

It also presents students with strong artistic intelligence the opportunity to excel in subjects they might otherwise have more difficulty with, says Blake.

"Art is not something that is peripheral," says Blake. "It is central to life. I'm not saying it's more important than doctors. But with the tools the doctors use, there was a designer who made those tools. Some architect figured out how to make the hospital building work. That's all creativity."

Interested artists are invited to submit their applications to the Arts Council before February 15. The program is funded the through a number of agencies including the Haliburton County Development Corporation, Trillium Lakelands District School Board, the local Lions and Rotary Clubs, and the Wilberforce Legion.

The Arts Council would prefer hiring local artists but will consider hiring outside of the county if not enough suitable candidates are found. More information can be found at www.haliburtonarts.on.ca or by calling Jim Blake at 457-3555.

Smoke alarms soon required on every floor of building

LANCE CROSSLEY
Staff Reporter

Forty-five seconds. That could have been the difference between life and death for a young child who once died during a house fire on a Canadian military base.

In a well-known experiment, the Ontario Fire Marshall's Office recreated the fire in a replica house with similar furnishings and one smoke alarm. Using video and thermostats, experts were able to closely monitor the progression of the fire.

It took only two minutes for the blaze to reach critical temperatures where humans can no longer survive. Fire officials concluded that had there been a second smokealarm in the house, closer to where the fire happened to start, it would have warned the victim 45 seconds earlier. A fragment of time in the scheme of things, but it can add up to a lifetime for fire victims.

"Hollywood tends to suggest that when you call 911, the next thing you will see are firefighters pulling babies out of windows," says Don Middleton, Fire Chief for Highlands East. "In all actuality, most of the time when there is a fatality in a fire, that fatality has happened before the fire department even knows there is a fire."

Middleton is standing next to 400 smoke alarms he just ordered for Highlands East residents to help them prepare people for March 1. That's the date it becomes mandatory in Ontario to have a smoke alarm on every level of your home as opposed to just one for the entire house.

The rules apply for both new and already existing homes, whether they be single family dwellings, semi-detached, or town homes. It's also required to have one outside all sleeping areas. Failure to comply can result in fines from $235 for homeowners and up to $25,000 for landlords.

It is generally recommended that you change your smoke alarms batteries once a year, although Middleton suggests doing it in the spring and fall each time you reset the clocks. Highlands East residents can purchase smoke alarms for $7 at the Wilberforce municipal office or its satellite offices in Cardiff and Gooderham.

Dysart et al won't be ordering any but will advise local merchants to stock up on the item.

"If you have a problem at night and you're sleeping, they are your only line of defense," says Dysart Fire Chief Miles Maughan. "That's when they pay off."

One of the common mistakes people make when installing their smoke alarms is placing them too close to the stovetop or bathroom. When smoke from the frying pan or steam from the shower set the alarm off, people are more inclined to get annoyed and take the battery out, says Middleton.

In his work, Middleton has also noticed some homes (cottages in particular) have smoke alarms that can best be described as antiquated.

"Some of them are about the size of a pie plate and look like they belong in a museum. It may seem like it works okay but this is a good opportunity to retire the old one and go get a new one."

The Ontario Fire Marshal's Office says that about 50 per cent of fatal home fires have no smoke alarm warning.

LANCE CROSSLEY/Echo

Fire Chief Don Middleton purchased 400 smoke alarms for Highlands East residents to encourage compliance with a new provincial fire code. As of March 1, every level of a home must have a working smoke alarm.

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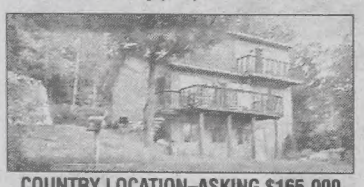

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Discover the art of farming

MARTHA PERKINS
Editor

MARTHA PERKINS//Echo

As well as preparing a greenhouse for the Community Shared Agriculture program at Waverly Brook Farm, Megan Marchant is planning a series of day- and week-long programs to introduce young and old to the art of sustainable farming.

It's not a coincidence that Megan Marchant is offering courses about the Art of Farming at Waverly Brook Farm.

Although she grew up in farm country, it was the arts that captured her attention, drawing her into the heart of Toronto to study at Sheridan College.

One day, however, she struck up a conversation with a young man, Marcus Stonge, who worked at the organic food store where she bought her groceries. They started talking about their life dreams and the issues that were important to them. Their dreams melded and so, too, eventually did their lives.

Bringing both their dreams and their livelihoods together was CRAFT – the Canadian Regional Association for Farmer Training. It offered them paid internships in the farming industry.

Their first job was at Greenfields Farms east of Guelph. They did everything from planting the seeds to harvesting the crop to marketing the food to customers.

"We were pretty green when we showed up at Greenfields," she laughs. "I've always been an outdoors person – Girl Guides for 15 years, always camping, fishing, being outdoorsy – but once I actually got my hands dirty [at Greenfields], it grew on me. I couldn't think of anything else.

"It's being able to be so active and taking charge of the important aspects of your life – the food you eat, your physical strength, mental strength...."

Like Waverly Brook Farms, Greenfields is committed to organic principles: no pesticides and following nature's rhythms instead of forcing your own timetable onto nature.

"Nature's way is the right way," she says. "Let nature be your guide."

On a visit to explore career possibilities at Fleming College, Marchant discovered Waverly Brook Farms, owned by Godfrey and Jean Tyler in old Donald. She told them about CRAFT and how she, as an intern at their farm, could enhance what they are trying to achieve. (Marcus would eventually get a job with the stewardship council in Minden.)

Waverly Brook has long been designated as a Community Shared Agriculture farm. They grow organic crops and their customers buy shares of the yield. For one price ($300 a season), they can simply drive down the pretty country road to the farm and pick up their box of food every week until Thanksgiving. For $50 less, they can help work at the farm and then bring their groceries home with them. There are two other options: buying by the week for $30 a box or, for $60, four fall storage boxes of produce.

Because it needs to know how many people it is planting for, Waverly Brook requires pre-registration. It is hosting a potluck dinner on February 18 to introduce the program to newcomers and welcome its old planting friends back. If people can't make it, they have until February 28 to register by phone.

"If you really want quality local food," Godfrey Tyler explains, "the farmer has to pre-plan. It's not like going to the grocery store and saying 'What will we have for dinner today?'."

Besides compiling a cookbook to give to CSA members, Marchant is spending the lull before spring by planting the seeds of other initiatives. One is a new greenhouse where she will be able to get an early start on planting seeds."I really feel strongly about starting my own sprouts and seedlings," she says, "and we don't have a long growing season so having an early start helps."

There will be 60 different crops this year from herbs to vegetables to berries. There will be more heritage crops, such as collards, which are more suited to a northern climate.

Then there's a series of projects called The Art of Farming. The courses will be offered in all four seasons to introduce people to the science and principles of living off the land. People can sign up for a week-long program or just visit for the day. Half-day tours are available.

In the winter some of the focus will be on sustainable forestry while spring will focus on the sweet pleasures of boiling down maple sap into syrup. In the summer emphasis will be on growing plants and all year long there will be visits to the barn with its resident cow, sheep and chickens.

For Marchant, it's an opportunity for people to experience the five elements: water, earth, fire, air and the ethereal.

The ethereal?

"I like to think of it as the bigger picture," she says. It explores such things as planting by phases of the moon and stars.

The Art of Farming can be for young and old alike. Children may like to visit the farm animals but it's their parents who buy the groceries, so Marchant wants to reach out to both of them.

To find out more about either program, contact Marchant at 457-2214 or e-mail meg.artoffarming@gmail.com.

We are what we buy

echo **editorial**

martha perkins

NORTH AMERICANS LIVE in a world disconnected from reality. They flock to stores to buy products that are made in China and sold here at prices that wouldn't even cover the cost of the raw materials if they had been made here. By voting with their wallets, shoppers have forced the closure of countless factories and businesses in North America.

Well-paying jobs are lost and workers are forced to move into the service sector, which doesn't pay as well. Then everyone wonders why incomes don't seem to be keeping pace with the cost of living. Not only that, they cope with having a diminished income by shopping at stores that can keep their prices low by buying cheap goods from China.

To a certain extent we've been protected from that shift in Haliburton County because we've never had a manufacturing base. Indeed, income levels in Haliburton County have never been high. If people in Haliburton County have a lot of money, chances are they made it somewhere else. Dollars are earned outside the county and then spent here by way of property.

This dichotomy – people who live here earning fairly low-paying wages compared to people who move or cottage here having most of the county's disposable income – puts many pressures on our economy. We don't have a strong enough year-round shopping base. Most of our businesses are small, with the owners providing some if not all of the labour. If every month were July they'd be able to hire more people and pay them better wages. But there are months like January to put that impulse on ice.

No one here doubts how tough it would be to live in Haliburton and earn only minimum wage. Rents may seem lower than in the city but here most people also have to pay for their utilities, which can be quite high, especially if the winters are cold. There's no public transport and you're lost without a car. Even the *Echo* demands that our summer students have a car – and they're just students. As Lance Crossley's story illustrates, you can do all right on minimum wage – as long as you don't intend to eat.

But if minimum wage goes up too much, business owners will be tempted to work more hours themselves. It's not that they don't want to pay workers more, it's simply that in this age of bargain-shopping-at-all-costs, they can't afford to.

North Americans have to take a serious look at how their attitudes affect our economy and that what they want as consumers often has a direct impact on what they want to earn as workers. A few weeks ago, Harvey Clarke of Donald suggested that everyone who uses the healthcare system be sent an itemized list of what those services cost. In that way we'd better appreciate what we have been offered, seemingly for free.

Likewise, it would be educational if everything we bought came with an itemized list of its true costs, and that includes the environmental degradation that is helping to fuel the Chinese economy. China's a far-away place but the impact of the damage that is being done to its environment will be one day felt here.

Then we'll really be paying the true cost of our bargain hunting.

Up close *Photo by* DARREN LUM/ECHO

Surprise!

ross jarvis

two-eight-six

WHAT A SURPRISE. I arrive at the office this morning and I'm greeted by a very lovely chocolate cake (my favourite) and everyone shouting, 'Happy Birthday, Ross'. A very funny card signed by the whole staff with lots of cheer and witty wisdom lay beside the cake. To say I was surprised is an understatement.

Now, I must admit that I've never been a real, dyed-in-the-wool Birthday Person. Over the years, I've often forgotten my birthday until very late in the day when I've had to write the date for some reason. This is the truth. I've been known to say, omigod, it's my birthday. And repair to the nearest bar with a couple of friends. A quick birthday toast and the conversation slips quickly and solidly back to office politics, gossip and the pursuit of livelihood.

Since I got married, I haven't forgotten my birthday or my wife's birthday even once, which is more than most husbands can say. Helped, no doubt, by the fact - our birthdays are on the same day. Yes, this is also the truth. Very handy indeed.

But while my birthday wouldn't cause me to change my plans for the day, my wife is from the other side of the Birthday Cake. She wouldn't find a ticker tape parade in her honour an extravagance on her birthday. This is the difference betwixt the birthday people and the non-birthday people. And, I guess there's nothing wrong with celebrating the special-ness of one's being added to the population of the world. I'm not sure if my being born on the same day makes it twice as special or half as special. And I can't see any upside to posing the question, so I won't. Interrupting this special day of celebration with any intellectual discussion would not be well received.

And why are birthdays so special? I think it all goes back to childhood, when your birthday party put you right in the centre of huge attention, with gifts and cake and ice cream and sandwiches with the crusts cut off, and all your friends showing up to help you celebrate. The pure delight of these very personal gatherings never leaves many of us.

And The Birthday Party has become an extravagantly evolving phenomenon. Clowns are hired to scare the children. Ponies are rented to bite the children. Special halls like Chucky Cheese were invented to entertain the children when parents ran out of ideas. And then came the advent of the Loot Bag. *The loot bag*. Gifts for the children who weren't having a birthday! Thank you, marketing people, for ratcheting up the expense of raising children another 1,000 per cent.

Oh, back to my surprise birthday party. It was great. The card was funny. The cake was delicious. The people were at their entertaining best. And I was even more surprised than they thought I would be. Mostly because it was about three weeks before my birthday. But, and here's the best part: this was the best, funniest and most hilarious birthday I've had in many a year.

Okay, let's see what the marketers can do with the Non-Birthday.

ONTARIO'S BEST COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER CIRCULATION 3,500 - 4,999 2003 OCNA AWARDS 2004 OCNA AWARDS

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Big time author

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steve galea

THOUGH YOU MIGHT NOT KNOW this from the quality of my writing, I am a published author. My first book, entitled *My Outdoors*, is, in fact, the seminal work on the outdoors as it relates to me.

I mention this because the other day I was searching the Amazon website to see if my book was being sold there. Lo and behold, it is. Not only that, but it is doing surprisingly well.

How well? All right, since you asked, I'll tell you. Not to brag but my book is now ranked 1,267,533rd of all books on the web site. Words cannot begin to describe how absolutely thrilled I am. To put it all in perspective, *War and Peace* is ranked 7,324th and *For Whom The Bell Tolls* is at 62,689th. I'm also behind several books on turnips which, given the international popularity of that root crop, says volumes about the quality of my prose.

And as if that's not encouraging enough, I'm way ahead of *Quien Recoge Las Cacas Del Perro*? or *Who Will Pick Up the Dog's Poop?* by Ricardo Alcantara. I guess it didn't translate very well, since it is currently un-rated. Then again, it's never easy dealing with the big questions.

But enough about my rivals. Never in my wildest dreams did I suspect I'd go this far. I mean, to be compared to Hemingway and Tolstoy? I tell you it makes me want to buy a pipe and a smoking jacket.

I expect my publisher will be giving me a call any moment now to congratulate me on my literary success and perhaps organize a whirlwind book-signing tour of various non-turnip eating countries. Perhaps he'll even get *My Outdoors* translated to Mandarin so he can sell it to the orange growers in Florida. That's the kind of thing I expect from the savvy marketing people who represent me.

Of course, you need not worry. This startling overnight success has not gone to my head. I'm still the same brilliant and celebrated author that you've all come to know and love. Yet, having said that, it's not easy being the Margaret Atwood of Haliburton.

I'm not sure who is currently number one on the Amazon list - it's not really important - but you can bet your last vowel that they're getting nervous with me nipping at their heels like this. My book has been out for only three years now; as you can well imagine, it is only gaining momentum. I'm expecting it to take off any minute now - especially since there's a secret code to an incredible pirate's treasure on page 72. Ooops, I guess the cat's out of the bag now.

Anyhow, by my calculations, if everyone in the county bought 32 copies of my book, I'd probably rush right past all those books on turnips and would then be well within striking distance of the number one spot. That's providing that no one goes and buys a turnip book during that time.

Which leads me to the next part of my marketing strategy. Even if, for some reason, you decide not to buy 32 copies of my book, I'd appreciate it if you didn't buy any of the 1,267,532 books ahead of me. At least, not until I've taken the number one spot. Pass that along to your friends and family, please. If I am to make number one, this aspect of my marketing strategy is of particular importance.

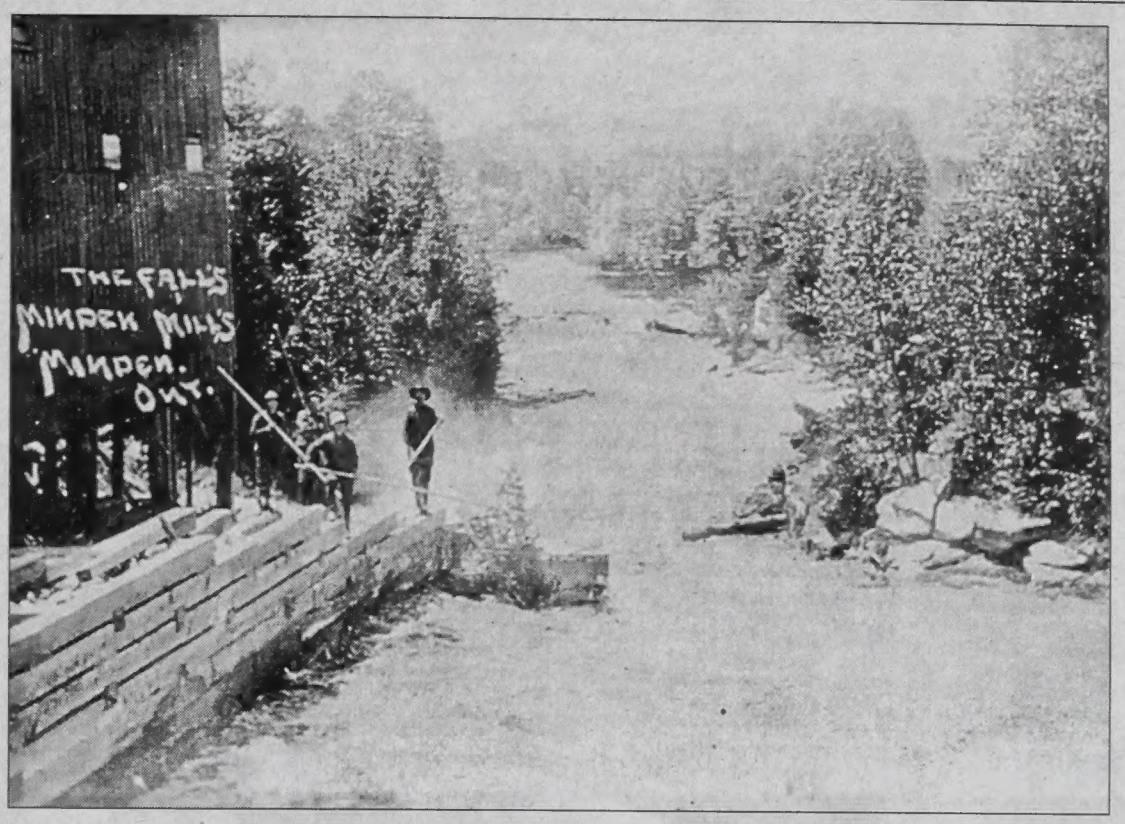
I've got to tell you, this news about my Amazon ranking has got me all pumped up. Having seen the numbers, a person would be crazy not to write another book. In fact, between you, me and the other six loyal readers of this column, I'm well on my way to completing a sequel to My Outdoors.

Hey, why not? I've gained a lot of knowledge about the book-writing business since then. For instance, sex sells. Which is why I plan on showing a little leg in my author's photo this time. I might even wear a see-through shirt.

More than that, I've learned that if you work hard, give it your best effort and write something entertaining and valuable to the readers, you'll probably do much better than 1,267,533rd place.

With all this in mind, I'm warning you to get ready for the sequel. It's going to have everything the last book had: exciting stories, great characters, lots of laughs, and maybe even punctuation if the publisher can afford it this time.

Oh, and I'm also going heavy on the turnip references. Lord knows, that sells, too.



pic of the past

THIS PHOTO WAS POSTMARKED Minden a.m. on June 22, 1912 and shows the Minden Mills dam before Orillia Power and Light built the present-day dam. Our thanks to Gren Schrader of Oakville and Gelert for sharing it with our readers.

letters to the editor

Ipperwash Inquiry a vital way to preserve democracy

To the Editor:

Re: *The Haliburton Echo*, January 24, Hodgson calls Ipperwash inquiry a "political farce."

Concerned citizens should not trouble themselves unduly about their MPP's use of coarse language when the whole bearing of the Ipperwash Inquiry reveals nothing less than a police state in the making. With the testimony at hand, we are given a unique opportunity to see how the authoritarian merging of the civilian and enforcement sectors was actually taking place, circa 1995, in our own province.

Because key records have been disappeared (as they say in Latin America), we shall probably never know who issued the fatal command to mount a police assault on unarmed protestors in the dead of night. But the Ipperwash Inquiry may settle other equally important questions. For example:

Why did the local MPP frequent a forward command post just prior to the assault?

Why did the authorities ignore evidence that the protestors were occupying a traditional burial ground?

Why did the police (who knew otherwise) fail to repudiate false rumours that the protestors were armed and dangerous?

How was it possible for the former Premier Mike Harris, represented by a battery of lawyers, to postpone the Ipperwash Inquiry for nearly eight years?

Native people often say that they play the role of canaries in the mine, that they are the first to feel the chill winds of reaction, which will eventually sweep over the electorate as a whole. Had the OPP not bungled the Ipperwash assignment, who next may have faced a lethal police charge? Striking teachers? Student protestors? Homeless people? Environmentalists?

Lest we forget is a motto all Canadians know by heart. Rather than dismiss the Ipperwash Inquiry as a political farce, we should honour it as a process vital to the preservation of democracy. Certainly it is not a cheap thing to turn the wheel of justice. But in his role as a cabinet member, would Mr. Hodgson hesitate expending $20 million if it meant protecting his own kin from the fate that was meted out to Dudley George?

Douglas Smith
Blairhampton
Former Green Party candidate

E-mail your letters to editor@haliburtonecho.ca

Boonieville by Charlie Teljeur

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	Spoiler	standard	na	na
More Capability	Cargo capacity L (cu.ft.)	397 (14.0)	340 (12.0)	385 (13.6)
	60/40 split folding rear seat	standard	na	standard
More Convenience	Automatic headlight control	standard	na	na
	Variable intermittent wipers	standard	na	na
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OPP is bound to attract recruits

OPPBound is a five-day recruiting initiative hosted by the Ontario Provincial Police in Orillia, July 9-14.

Men and women who present the diverse communities served by the OPP and are interested in exploring a career in policing are invited to submit an application. One hundred men and women will be selected to spend the week with Ontario's finest.

OPPBound includes mentoring sessions with OPP members from diverse backgrounds, who will share their experiences and answer questions. Participants will also experience a taste of the life of an OPP recruit including firearms, drill, physical training and hands on exercises.

Men and women from diverse communities who are interested in taking advantage of this opportunity can get an on-line application by going to the OPP website www.opp.ca or by calling OPP Recruitment toll free at 1-866-393-3337.

MTO says shift changes allow 24-hour service

from page 1

change in scheduling.

"A new shift schedule was introduced in 2005 to provide 24-hour coverage, up from 16 hours a day," says MTO spokesperson Emna Dhahak.

Bob van Veen, Manager of Contracts with MTO, says before there were periods of time in the morning and afternoon that had no coverage at all. Stretching the shifts over the whole 24 hours at least provides one person providing coverage at any one time.

Bob Houston, a spokesman for the union and a member of its Enforcement and Renewal Committee, says the MTO's southwestern region near Owen Sound once considered reducing the number of winter patrols on duty but decided any such cuts would pose a safety hazard.

"There is a risk ensued by not having sufficient coverage," Houston said.

Houston also worries about longer hours for highways patrols that may lead to fatigue and impaired judgment.

""Because the job is more mental than physical, mental fatigue leads to making wrong decisions."

In other areas of the province, contractors are given decision-making power on when and where to plow roads but must meet government quality control guidelines. In this area of Ontario, where weather can change drastically in a short period of time, the responsibility is given to paid winter patrols to enforce the government's standards.

DARREN LUM/Echo

Snow day

Three-year-old Jordanna Newbatt keeps bundled up as she swings at the Head Lake Park in Haliburton on Sunday, Feb. 5. Jordanna was with father Wayne and younger sister Chantelle, above, enjoying the calm after the storm that brought more than 30 cm of snow on Saturday.

CONGRATULATIONS!

We would like to congratulate
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and her parents
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CONGRATULATIONS!

We would like to congratulate
Owen Michael Nicholls
and his parents
Erin Nicholls and Brianna Elder
who won the draw for a
subscription to The Echo.

We would like to congratulate
Maddison Ashlee Williams
and her parents
Brent and Sara Williams
who won the draw for a
subscription to The Times.

The Anglican Parish
of Haliburton

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*Church School (Nursery – High School)
St. Margaret's, Wilberforce
Hwy. #648
Sunday Worship: 11.15 a.m.

The Rev. Faun Harriman
Parish office: (705) 457-2074

Highland Storm schedule

Atom A vs Campbellford (best of 5)

Feb 10:
7:45 p.m. in Campbellford
Feb 11:
4:00 p.m. in Haliburton
Feb 12:
3:00 p.m. in Campbellford
Feb 14:
7:00 p.m. in Minden

Midget AE vs Lakefield (best of 5)

Feb 14:
9:00 p.m. in Haliburton
Feb 17:
9:30 p.m. in Haliburton
Feb 18:
7:00 p.m. in Lakefield
Feb 21:
8:30 p.m. in Minden
Feb 24:
7:00 p.m. in Lakefield

Tri-County Regular Season

Feb 11: MTC vs Beaverton at Haliburton 8:30 p.m.
Feb 12:
ATC vs Cannington at Haliburton 1:30 p.m.
MTC vs Sunderland at Haliburton 4:30 p.m.
Feb 14:
MTC vs Fenelon Falls at Minden 8:30 p.m.

OMHA Playdowns

Feb 10:
MA vs Campbellford at Haliburton 8:30 p.m. Game 3
Feb 11:
BA vs Campbellford at Haliburton 5:30 p.m. Game 4
AA vs Campbellford at Haliburton 4 p.m. Game 4
Feb 14:
MAE vs Lakefield at Haliburton 9 p.m. Game 1

Haliburton teams do well at Minden mixed bonspiel

WENDY VERMEERSCH

Special to The Echo

On January 17 the Minden Curling Club hosted the Mixed Seniors Inter-Club Bonspiel.

Results were as follows:

First draw: the first-place team was skipped by Murray Cooper. Second place went to the Haliburton Rink skipped by Ron Barr, vice Doreen DeGrave, second John Glachan and lead was Shirley Rule. Third place was a Haliburton team skipped by Gary Thorpe, vice Brian Hambly, second Mary Jane Dillon and lead Lorraine Semple. The second draw was won entirely by Minden teams: in first place Charlie Hadley's team, second George Bull and third place went to Marg Bull's team. Minden Club won the trophy.

Two Haliburton teams travelled to Wilberforce for a two-day bonspiel January 20 – 21. Although not winners they reported having a great time. They were skipped by Ron Barr and Al De Grave.

On January 27 and 28 there was exciting curling at the Minden Curling Club in the Wild West Bonspiel. The Haliburton team skipped by John Smillie was the overall winners. His team was made up of John and Cheryl Smillie and Case and Brigitte Bassie. They wore the new club curling jackets and were referred to as The Jackets.

Unfortunately the Haliburton Legion team of Terry Roche, Larry Holden, Tom Harkness and Case Bassie did not win the Legion provincial finals.

Three women's teams travelled to Barrie on Feb. 1 and 2 for the February Freeze Bonspiel at the Barrie Curling Club. Although they did not place in the top three a good time was had by all. The first team was Phyllis Woodcock, Shirley Howse, Chris Zahn and Pat Dickson. The second team was Sandra Duchemin, Cheryl Smillie, Brigitte Bassie and Wendy Vermeersch. The third team that curled was Jan Cox, Doreen DeGrave, Hilda Attridge and Lorraine Virgin.

The 4 Town Senior Men's Bonspiel at the Haliburton Club on January 31 saw two Haliburton Teams in the top two spots. First-place winners were Terry Roche, Larry Holden, Case Bassie, and Moe Welch. Second place went to John Lindsay, Brian Daoust, Dick Duchemin and Pete Montgomery. Third place went to the Don Ballentine's team from Minden and fourth place to Al Ingram's team from Bobcagyeon.

Haliburton Club hosted the 23rdTom Stinson Invitational Bonspiel on February 1 sponsored by Todd's Independent Grocer. It was held at the Haliburton Curling Club. Sixteen teams from as far south as Orillia and north to Huntsville competed for the coveted trophy. The first place winners from the first draw were: from Haliburton, skip Don Wetmore, vice Bruce Bozec, second Glen Smith, and lead Terry Adair. Second place also from Haliburton, skip Terry Roche, vice Larry Holden, second Case Bassie and lead Brian Daoust. Third place from Bracebridge was the team of Stewart Mitchell.

The second draw winners were: 1st place and overall winners from Bobcaygeon, skip John Hope, vice John Nickels, second Murray Lytle, and lead Brian Kishbaugh. Second place from Haliburton, skip John Smillie, vice Moe Welch, second Peter Byer, and lead Dick Duchemin. Third place from Haliburton, skip Del Watson, vice Tom Parish, second Wes Lytle, and lead Brian Murison.

Bonspiel organizer Brian Murison would like to thank Steve Todd from Todd's Independent Grocer for his generous support and the fine selection of meat products made available for our very successful 23rd Tom Stinson Bonspiel. Many thanks also go to Brian's helpers John Glachan, Fred Houtby, and Richard Rasmus. A special thank you to Janet Tice for an excellent meal as usual and to her helpers, Sharon Murison, Irene Houtby, Luba Glachan, Beryl Rasmus and Pat Norman for helping out in the kitchen. And as always a special thank you to John Watson for making the ice a pleasure to curl on.

Make friends with winter at workshops

The Haliburton Highlands Trails & Tours Network wants to help people get out and make friends with winter. Join them for some fun in the snow – There's something for everyone and each event includes lunch and all the gear you'll need for the day.

Space are limited so be sure to register in advance.

Saturday, February 11: Winter Luge Workshops at Red River Luge Club. Workshop 1: 9:00 - 12:30; Workshop 2: 1:00 - 4:30. Members $40; $45 non members

Sunday, February 26: Dogsledding Workshop at Haliburton Forest & Wildlife Reserve, 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. Members $130; non members $145.

For more information or to register, contact Haliburton Highlands Trails & Tours Network, (705) 489`4049, visit www.trailsandtours.com or e-mail info@trailsandtours.com.

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Carol Brentnall ext. 311
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Twenty-four teams hit Haliburton

Bob Johnson's team places best of local competitors

Loris Faggion, Kim Thomas, Gerri Faggion and Craig Thomas were the winners of the Newbatts Trophy.

Stu Garner, Karen Garner, Nancy Alexander, and Brian Alexander were proud to receive the Phyllis Woodcock trophy.

Rick Johnson, Cheryl Johnson, Marian Quackenbush and John Quackenbush earned the coveted Subway Trophy.

Bob Merry, Mary Merry, Jennifer Harmark and Knud Harmark won the V&S Department Store trophy.

WENDY VERMEERSCH

Special to the Echo

The Whirlpool/Newbatts three-day bonspiel attracted 24 teams to the Haliburton Curling Club on Feb 3, 4 and 5.

Teams were from Haliburton, Oshawa, Dixie (Mississauga), Elora, Milton, Cannington, Richmond Hill, London and Toronto in the four event bonspiel.

The top Haliburton team was skipped by Bob Johnson, with vice Kim Lewis, second Peter Byers and lead Candy Robinson.

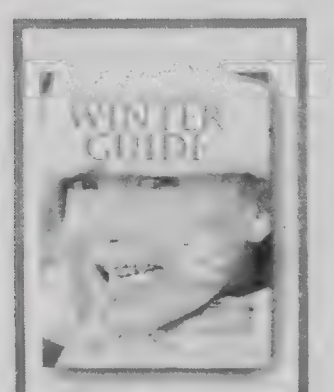
The ice makers for the event were John Watson and Wayne DeJong.

A Event champions, Whirlpool/Newbatts trophy: from Milton, Loris Faggion skip, Kim Thomas, Gerri Faggion and Craig Thomas

B Event champions, Phyllis Woodcock trophy: from the Dixie Curling Club, Stu Garner skip, Karen Garner, Nancy Alexander, and Brian Alexander

C Event champions, Subway trophy: from the Oshawa Golf Club, Rick Johnson skip, Cheryl Johnson, Marian Quackenbush and John Quackenbush

D Event champions, V & S Department Store trophy: from Milton, Bob Merry skip, Mary Merry, Jennifer Harmark and Knud Harmark.



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THE ECHO HALIBURTON COUNTY

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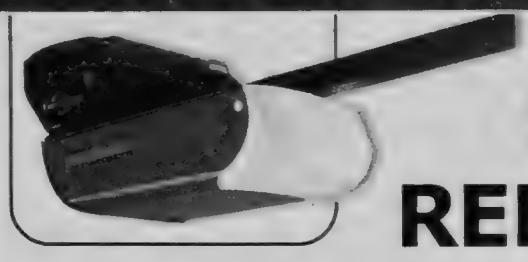

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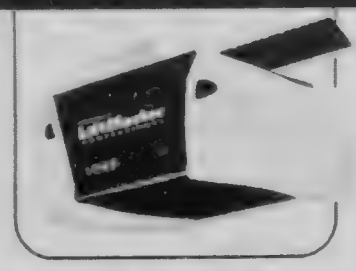

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Novices sweep series

KATHY McKELVEY-BROWN

Special to The Ech

Saturday, January 28 and Sunday, January 29 saw the Highland Storm Novice team face Oro on their turf for the third and fourth games of the series.

The Storm came out strong in Game 3 with both offence and defence making some awesome plays. They continued to dominate the entire game to the end, winning 8-0. Goaltender Logan Churko earned his first shut-out of the series.

Game 4 was played more like Game 2 of the series with Oro looking far more determined to win. The Storm was ahead 3-0 at the end of the first period but by the end of the second, after scoring two more goals, they only had a two-point lead, 5-3. Churko was kept busy and made some great glove saves keeping the goals against to a minimum.

The Storm was tight in third period the Storm and worked hard as a team, scoring two more goals to win the game 7-3 and the series 4-0.

Stats for the games:
Devon Upton: 6G, 1A
Curtis Ballantyne:3G, 1A
Blake Wood: 3G, 1A
William Stephenson: 1G, 5A
Hunter Bishop: 1G, 3A
Braydin Hollows: 1G, 3A
Conner Gadway: 4A
Owen Flood: 1A

The team will go on to play Campbellford in the finals for the Red Lobster Cup and would like to take this opportunity to thank their sponsors, G.J. Burtch Construction and Churko Electric.

Midgets stare down Chiefs in first of playoff series

JIM WINN

Special to The Echo

The C.R.S./Rodco Enterprise Midget A.E.s drew first blood in their playoff series against the Lakefield Chiefs. Both teams had swept their first round in three games.

Game 1 was in Lakefield Friday night. The first period was a very cautiously played game by both teams - no goals and no penalties.

At 13:01 of the second period Devin Hunter got the puck back to Billy Kulas on the point; Billy used his low shot to find a spot to bulge the twine. Lakefield took three penalties in that period, but the Storm was unable to capitalize.

With the lines changed to start the third period the combination of Josh Townsend, Andy Donaldson, and Adam DeCarlo, "The Rocket Line" started to click.

Josh took the puck wide, feeding Andy in front who found the five hole to give the Storm a 2- 0 lead, but the Chiefs cut the lead to 2- 1 only 37 seconds later. This inspired the boys from Lakefield, and you could feel the tide turning against the boys from the north. A time-out called with to settle the Highland boys down seemed to work. Devin Hunter, and Max Ambridge were being stoned by the Lakefield goalie. But a replay of goal two with 2:29 to play gave the Storm some breathing room. Lakefield had a late power play but the Highland boys held on for a 3 - 1 victory.

A strong, disciplined game by all of the Storm lads made up for the lack of scoring. It was impressive to see these Midgets only take two penalties.

The next two games in this series are Tuesday, Feb. 14 in Haliburton at 9 p.m., and Friday, Feb. 17 at 9:30 in Haliburton. Please come out and cheer this team on and bring your Valentine.

Being active is easy – and not just for Olympic athletes

SUE SHIKAZE

Health Promoter, Haliburton

Hockey pucks, triple axels and ski jumps are sure to dominate the airwaves this February as the world tunes in to the Winter Olympics.

You don't need to be an Olympic athlete to make physical activity part of your day. That's good news if you suffer from the February blahs or want to reclaim your New Year's Resolution to be healthier in 2006.

According to Canada's Physical Activity Guide to Healthy Active Living, people need to be active to stay healthy. There is research that suggests not being physically active is as dangerous to our health as smoking.

How do we break out of our fitness funk?

Canada's Physical Activity Guide recommends adults be physically active 30 to 60 minutes most days of the week. To reach this threshold, the Guide suggests starting slowly and building up from there. It all adds up, and that's the key message contained in the Guide.

You can also think inside the box to get active. The Haliburton health unit has Community Busy Boxes available for loan. The box is a children's activity kit chock full of games and equipment that can provide hours of indoor fun for both young and old. The boxes are available through the health unit office.

The possibilities to be active are endless and don't have to be of Olympic proportions.

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Reach for The Future

For the eighth year the Haliburton Highlands Health Services Foundation decorated trees located in the lobbies of the Health Care Facilities with tags sponsored by gifts from our generous supporters. The proceeds will assist the Foundation to pay off the $820,000 capital loan on the Health Care Facilities.

Our sincere thanks to the following for assisting the Foundation in our 2005 "Reach For the Future" Campaign:

Honourary Chairmen: Dr. Bob Heyes and Dr. David Fiddler, The Volunteers, Haliburton & Minden Auxiliary Members, H.H.H.S. Maintenance Staff,
and to All Our Generous Donors
For Helping Us Surpass Our $75,000 Goal.....

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THANK YOU!

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Community Care HALIBURTON COUNTY 457-2941

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- Emergency Response System
- Home Help & Home Maintenance
- Social Recreation
- Telephone Security Checks
- Transportation
- In-Home Respite
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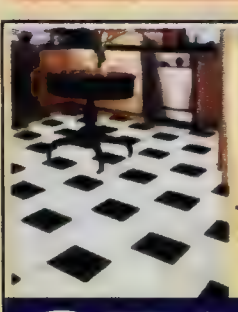

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Community Care HALIBURTON COUNTY

Meals on Wheels Sweetheart Sale

For over 25 years Community Care has been supporting Haliburton seniors, and adults with disabilities and their caregivers. The non-profit organization serves a large segment of our population who otherwise could be isolated with their health and safety at risk

In a one-year period, 1,006 clients used as many as ten of the essential services that Community Care provides. Programs help residents remain independent and in their homes for a longer period of time. Working with other agencies in the community the organization strives to improve their clients' quality of life.

Some of the services include Transportation to attend medical appointments in and out of the county; Friendly Visiting, which gives seniors social contact; Home Help & Home Maintenance, providing assistance to clients in or out of the home for such things such as housecleaning and maintenance; and Security Telephone Checks and Emergency Response, providing help at the press of a button to ensure the preservation of wellbeing and security to clients in their homes. Non-Medical Respite is also available to caregivers to minimize being overburdened.

To make sure people are eating properly, frozen Meals on Wheels are available to seniors, and adults with disabilities and their caregivers, new moms up to 12 weeks after birth and people recovering from an illness. Suitable for low salt, low fat, diabetic and gluten-free diets with puréed and minced meals available, clients are offered a choice of 32 entrées, eight soups and twelve desserts. The affordable and healthy meals can be picked up anytime at their office in Halco plaza in Haliburton, Monday to Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 pm. On Thursdays, there is free delivery throughout the entire county.

Presently Frozen Meals on Wheels is organizing a Sweetheart Sale from February 13th to February 16th. If you buy seven entrées you will get one for free. If you buy 10 entrées, you will receive a free entrée, soup and desert.

To prevent isolation, Community Care has taken a number of initiatives for clients to maintain social contact with other people. A card games recreation program takes place at Community Care Monday, Thursday and Friday from 1 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. Social outings for clients and caregivers are organized regularly at restaurants throughout the county. Wheels to Meals is a very popular service which provides a meal at a fixed and affordable rate.

For people wanting to get more active, Aquasize at Wigamog takes place on Mondays between 10:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. A Wednesday class is in the process of being organized.

The organization depends on volunteers to provide essential services to the community. Community Care has estimated that between April 1, 2005 and March 31, 2006, more than 18,700 hours of volunteer service has been provided to clients in the area. The organization is always looking for more volunteer drivers and presently needs a volunteer to make calls for the Haliburton Wheels to Meals luncheon.

Community Care has been a key player and involved with the beginning steps of transforming health care in the county.

"We are pleased to be part of the team in developing the Central East Local Health Integrated Network Report," says Donna MacDonald, Executive Director of Community Care.

Treat your sweetie on

St. Valentine's Day

BE MINE

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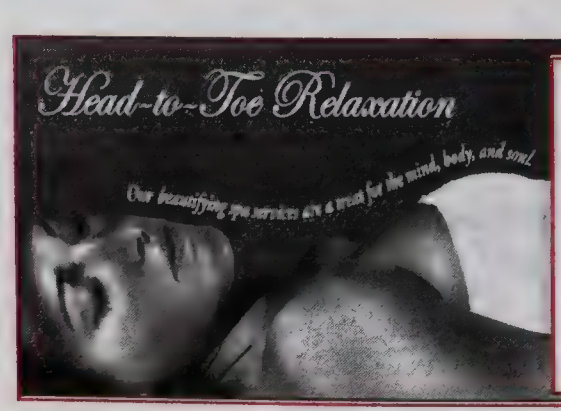

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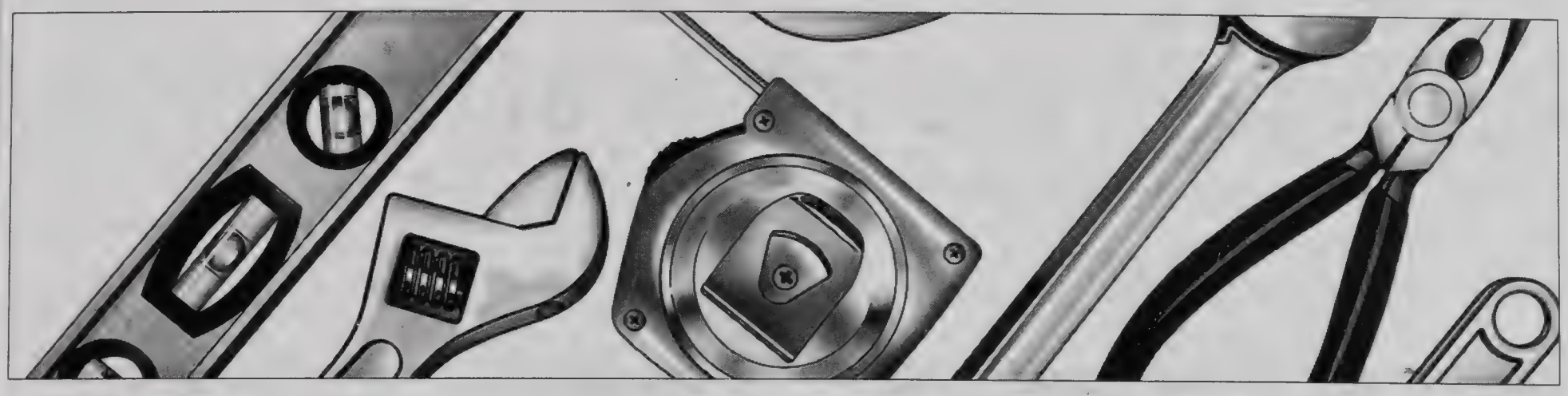

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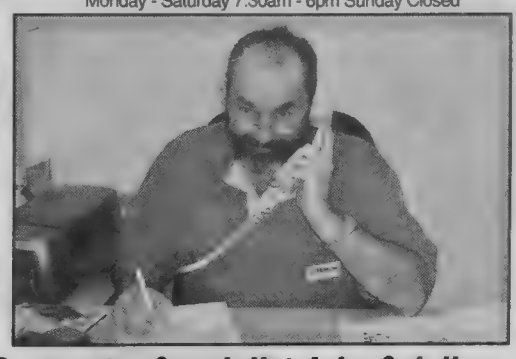

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Indulge in the foods of romance

Did you know that the smell of pumpkin pie and lavender can attract a man?

FRANKA ANDRIANO

Special to the Echo

Through the centuries men and women have been looking for anything to bring them love – aphrodisiacs, love potions or special foods. Food has always been linked to romance and we know what that can lead to...

It has been said that eating oysters will increase a man's virility; Casanova, one of the world's greatest lovers, apparently ate them by the dozens. (No shoving at the fish aisle.)

For a woman it is has been said that chocolate is the aphrodisiac of choice. It tastes fabulous and contains magnesium, a mineral that women crave, as well as more than 100 different chemicals including phenyl ethylamine, an amphetamine-like brain chemical that triggers the sense of euphoria that people experience when they fall in love. Chocolate's seductive combination of fat and sugar increases natural pleasure chemicals produced by the brain called endorphins. Now we know why men rush to bring us chocolates on Valentines Day.

Men have also been known to react to the smell of pumpkin pie (which contains the spices cinnamon, nutmeg and cloves) as well as lavender. This increases the male's romantic response, according to the Smell and Taste Treatment and Research Foundation. So get out those pie pans.

We all have favourite smells and memories that go with that. In some men it could be the smell of baking bread or the smell of vanilla. Experiment.

Others prefer a love potion so if you want to call your soul mate to you try this: concentrate on the moon or a star that attracts your attention and think loving thoughts.

"With these magic words I begin my spell.
Hear me, oh mystic star, hear me well.
Let your magic light send me the love of my life."

I have always felt it is best to show love in simple ways. A kiss, a hug, doing the dishes, bringing flowers or a funny card – these are all appreciated when you need a pick-me-up. Letting you sleep in a bit, taking out the garbage could also work wonders.

Whichever way you want to celebrate Valentine's Day, the best is the most traditional: through someone's stomach. Nothing says "I love you" like cooking.

So whether you spend it alone, with a partner, friend, and neighbour or, like me, under the stars, enjoy these recipes.

Baked Oysters

3 cups coarse salt
6 fresh oysters, top shells discarded
2 tbsp fine breadcrumbs
1/2 teaspoon Dijon mustard
1 tsp finely chopped fresh flat parsley
Freshlly ground pepper
2 slices bacon, cooked and diced
Lemon slices

Preheat oven to 450°. Spread salt in a shallow baking dish. Nestle oysters in their bottom shells in the salt. In a bowl combine breadcrumbs, mustard, parsley and butter; season with pepper. Sprinkle one tsp mixture on each oyster; top with bacon pieces. Bake until oysters curl and topping browns, 10-12 minutes. Serve immediately with lemon wedges

From *Martha Stewart Living*, February 2003.

Chicken Mole

(chicken with chocolate sauce)
Mole is a rich Mexican sauce made with spices and unsweetened chocolate.
2 skinless boneless chicken breasts halves or boneless thighs
3 tsp chili powder
2 tbsp vegetable oil
1 medium onion, chopped
2 cloves garlic, chopped
1/2 tsp ground cumin
1/4 tsp ground cinnamon
16 oz can stewed whole tomatoes, with juices
1/2 ounce unsweetened chocolate, Mexican if you can find it.
2 tbsp toasted pumpkin seeds, optional
Salt and freshly ground black pepper

Sprinkle chicken with salt, pepper and one tsp chili powder. Heat one tbsp of oil in a large sauté pan over medium high heat. Sauté chicken until brown, about two minutes on each side. Place chicken on plate and cover to keep warm.

Add another tbsp of oil to sauté pan over medium heat. Add onions and cook until golden brown, about 10 minutes. Add garlic, remaining two tsp chili powder, cumin and cinnamon. Cook for one minute. Add tomatoes; bring to a simmer, and cook, stirring frequently, until sauce thickens, about 10 minutes. Add chocolate and stir until melted.

In a blender or food processor grind the pumpkin seeds into a fine powder. Add the cooked sauce and blend until smooth. Taste sauce and adjust seasonings.

Pour sauce back into sauté pan. Add chicken to the sauté pan and cook over medium heat for another five minutes.

From *Temptation: Igniting the Pleasure and Power of Aphrodisiacs* by Ellen and Michael Alberton

Chocolate Pecan Pie

Crust
1/4 cup cold butter
1 cup unbleached white flour
Approximately 2-3 tbsp cold milk or buttermilk
Filling
1 tbsp butter
2 ounces unsweetened chocolate
4 eggs
3/4 cup dark corn syrup
1/2 to 3/4 cup packed brown sugar
1/2 tsp salt
1 tbsp rum (optional)
2 cups coarsely chopped pecans
A handful of pecan halves
Optional topping
1/2 pint heavy cream
3 tbsp sugar
1/4 tsp vanilla extract
1 to 2 tbsp rum

Using a food processor or two forks, combine the butter and flour until they form a uniform mixture resembling coarse cornmeal. Add just enough milk one tbsp at a time to hold the dough together.

Roll out the dough to fit a 9-inch pie pan, using extra flour to prevent sticking as you roll. Form a crust. Set aside. (If you're rushed use store-bought crust.)

Preheat oven to 375°. Melt butter and chocolate together. (Use double boiler or carefully in microwave, checking every minute.) Remove from heat. Beat eggs at high speed with an electric mixer. Slowly drizzle in all the chocolate mixture as you keep beating the eggs. Beat in all other ingredients except the pecans.

Spread the chopped pecans in to the unbaked pie shell. Pour in the batter and scatter a few pecan halves on top.

Bake 30 minutes or until solid in the middle. If you want the topping, whip the cream with the sugar, vanilla extract and rum. Serve warm, at room temperature, or cold with optional whipped cream, if desired.

Baked Chocolate Mousse

1/2 cup granulated sugar
1/3 cup butter
12 oz semisweet chocolate chopped
4 eggs
2 egg yolks
2 tbsp instant granules

See **Mix** *page 19*

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from page 18

1 tsp cinnamon
Garnish
1 cup whipping cream
2 tbsp granulated sugar
1 tsp cinnamon
1/2 tsp unsweetened cocoa powder

Line bottom of 8-inch round cake pan with parchment or waxed paper. Set aside

In saucepan, stir sugar with one-third cup water over medium heat until dissolved. Add butter; simmer, stirring occasionally until melted and about to boil. Remove from heat. Add chocolate; whisk until melted

In bowl, whisk eggs with egg yolks; whisk into chocolate mixture in two additions.

Dissolve coffee granules in one-third warm water; whisk into chocolate mixture along with cinnamon.

Scrape into prepared pan. Set pan in larger pan; pour in enough hot water to come halfway up side of cake pan. Bake in centre of 325° oven for 35 to 40 minutes or just until firm to the touch at edge but till slightly jiggly in center. Remove from water; let cool completely on rack (mousse can be wrapped in plastic wrap and refrigerated for up to five days or frozen in rigid airtight container for up to one month; thaw in refrigerator for 8 hours.)

Run thin knife around mousse to loosen form pan; invert onto cake plate, shaking pan slightly. Peel off paper.

Garnish in bowl; whip cream with sugar mound on top of mousse. Combine cinnamon with cocoa; sprinkle over top. Makes 16 servings.

Franka Andriano is the owner of Franka's Delectables where we provide food for any occasion. For more information contact me at 705-457-5276 or www.whisperingpinebbretreat.com.

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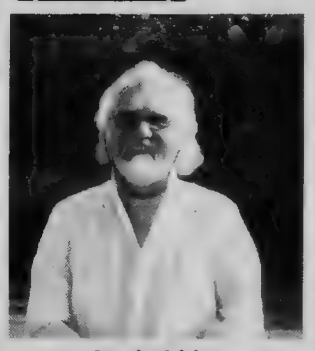

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United Church ladies appreciated

Men get together and host appreciation night for hardworking female volunteers

community news

wilberforce

Hilda Clark
448-2018

People volunteer to serve in a variety of ways, in a great number of different organizations. They volunteer because they believe in and support the work of these groups. They heartily volunteer without thought of any reward except knowing their efforts will benefit others. In the case of the United churches in Wilberforce and Gooderham, women contribute much year after year. They were delighted when the men of their churches, including the Rev. Peter Robinson, held an appreciation night for them. It took place at the Wilberforce Church on Saturday, February 4, 2006.

About 50 people enjoyed a social time with hors d'oeuvres and punch followed by an excellent roast beef dinner. The special dessert, a thank-you cake, was a fine expression of the appreciation for the women and their continuing solid efforts for their church.

Colleen Ward lets us know that Rev, Robinson playing piano and Margaret Dugas will offer at least one duet at next Sunday's service (Feb. 12).

The cast and director of the Loop Troupe are busy practising twice a week for the production of *A Party to Murder.* This play, written by Marcia Kash and Douglas Hughes, will be presented on the Lloyd Watson Centre stage on Friday, April 7 and Saturday, April 8. Sorry that, in a previous column, I had the title slightly wrong.

Meanwhile, at the invitation of the Highland Grove people, who are restoring the old Cheddar log school, other members of the Loop Troupe have agreed to support their fundraising efforts by presenting a one-act play. This fun little farce will be part of the program at the Highland Grove Recreation Centre on Saturday evening March 11 and Sunday afternoon March 12. More information on these Loop Troupe efforts will be available soon.

A number of women are looking forward to the Valentine Bonspiel that takes place this coming weekend at the curling club.

On February 15, 1965 the Canadian flag was raised for the first time. A moving speech in the Hall of Honour in the parliament buildings by Prime Minister Lester B. Pearson ended with "God bless our flag! And God bless Canada."

Then the red ensign was officially lowered from the Peace Tower.

As the new flag reached the top of the flagpole, apparently the sun broke through the clouds.

All over the country and abroad, flag raisings honoured the new Canadian flag. I was reminded of these details by an article in the current issue of *The Beaver, Canada's History Magazine. The Beaver* was originally the magazine of the Hudson's Bay Company.

So pause a moment as you pass our flag somewhere next Wednesday and remember how fortunate we are to live in Canada, the country it symbolizes.

Plan for a serious flu epidemic by attending Thursday meeting

JUNE STEWART

Special to the Echo

Not if – when?

That's the vital message to be presented in a public meeting about the coming influenza pandemic. Sponsored by the Haliburton chapter of the Canadian Federation of University Women (CFUW), the meeting takes place at Sir Sandford Fleming College at 7p.m. on Thursday, February 9.

The speaker is Robin Anthony, infectious control practitioner for Haliburton Highlands. Her message is that we must plan for this serious situation. She says this pandemic is inevitable and could hit at any time, probably affecting at least one third of the population.

Flu shots help alleviate the severity of the illness, but may not prevent it. In her address, Robin will discuss the four main considerations, and how we can help ourselves.

Everyone is invited to this important meeting.

Refreshments will be served by the sponsors.

Healthcare staff honoured

Haliburton Highlands Health Services recently presented Celebrating Excellence Awards to long-serving staff.

Five years: Tracey Lopez, Susan Scheffee, Kym Gordon, Marlene Robinson, Kim Britton, Steacey Billings, Jessica Billings, Christine Bellefleur, Sandra Farrell, Jerry McKelvey, Joyce Wright, Heidi-Lisa Titze, Ingrid Brown, Loraine Hughey, Mandy Booth, Sylvia Campbell, Janice Lewis, Nancy Crego, Michelle Beaver.

Ten years: Tim O'Sullivan, Marilyn Stevens, Beth Archibald.

Fifteen years: Kellie Churko, Michelle St. Germain, Shirley Perrault, Violet Boughner, Stephanie Kuno, Stephanie Smith.

Twenty years: Joanne Ecclestone, Sydney Gregory-Robinson, Susan Coumbs, Nadene Campbell, Sylvia Sisson, Cynthia McElwain, Judith Toye.

Twenty-five years: Jill Brown, Terri Johnson.

HHHS Award of Excellence – Courtney MacDonald.

Buy a crocus Thursday and support the CNIB

Forget about the winter blues. Beautiful purple crocuses will add a breath of spring to your home or office.

The Canadian National Institute for the Blind's annual crocus sale is February 9 in Haliburton and surrounding area. Watch for their enthusiastic, dedicated volunteers at Minden IGA, Haliburton IGA and Stedman's V&S from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. or while quantities last. Pots sell for $4 each or three pots for $10.

The CNIB is committed to improving the quality of life for Ontarians whose vision is declining. The work is done through education, rehabilitation and adaptive technologies.

Proceeds from this campaign support free services to more than 2,500 individuals within the Kawartha, Haliburton and Pine Ridge District who are blind, visually impaired and deaf as well as blind. Locally, more than 80 clients are supported in their greatest challenge: thriving independently in a sighted world. To contact the CNIB office, call (1-866) 699-1699.

Hospital Christmas campaign sets new fundraising record

Each year, for the past eight years, the Haliburton Highlands Health Services Foundation launches a Christmas fundraising campaign. This past year's theme was Reach for The Future.

Peter Oyler, chairman of the board of directors, was enthusiastic when he recently reported that the 2005 campaign raised a total of $77,072. This is the most money raised for the Christmas campaign since the foundation started in early 1997. Oyler thanked everyone for their generous support of healthcare facilities in Haliburton and Minden.

Hanging tags on the decorated trees located in the front lobbies, emergency areas and long-term care areas recognized each donation. This year the blue and white Reach for The Future tags represented donations from individuals, service clubs, churches, organizations, private foundations and businesses.

Sometimes, a note or letter accompanies the donations stating the wonderful and compassionate care received by the individual or a family member. A copy of this correspondence is distributed to the professionals, staff and board members to let them know they are truly appreciated. Foundation members and staff thank those supporters for taking that extra step and we enjoy hearing from you.

The many, many donations once again demonstrated how much the community cares about their hospitals and healthcare facilities.

The foundation continues to reduce the capital loan associated with the two facilities and the money raised from the Reach for the Future campaign assisted with that. The capital loan balance is $820,000. Peter stated that with the continued support of our very generous donors and volunteers, the Foundation would continue to be successful.

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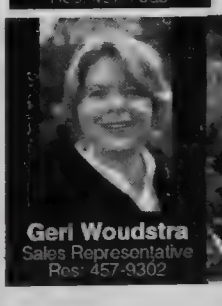

Geri Woudstra
Sales Representative
Res: 457-9302

PRETTY & PRIVATE
Pictured here is the driveway into this 21.5 ac piece of property, off of Hwy 503 between Irondale & Kinmount. A clearing to build has been made at the end of this drive. Plenty of recreational activities & wildlife in this area.
Asking $59,500

Ahoy, kids!

Photos, Darren Lum.

Captain Matt (Matthew Romain) fights with pirate Stink Beard, right, nearing the end of the Capt'n Matt's Treasure Hunt show as hosted by the Razzamataz Kids Shows at the Northern Lights Performing Arts Theatre in Haliburton on Sunday, Jan. 29. 180 people attended the performance that emphasized the importance of reading and books. Romain (also seen in the photo above left) is with the Join Hands Puppeteers. The next Razzamataz show is The Barry O' Kidshow, which concentrates on the themes of truth and being yourself, through an interactive show, on Sunday at 2 p.m., March 5.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING

PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO ZONING BY-LAW 77-32, AS AMENDED
PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO ZONING BY-LAW 2005-120, AS AMENDED
MUNICIPALITY OF DYSART ET AL

- **DATE:** Monday March 6th, 2006.
- **TIME:** 5:30 pm.
- **LOCATION:** Council Chambers in the Municipal Office
  135 Maple Ave., Haliburton Ontario.

APPLICATIONS:

1. Lands of Harcourt Park Marina:
   - Purpose and Effect: to consider a proposed amendment to Zoning Bylaw 77-32, as amended and Zoning By-law 2005-120, as amended.
     - -To recognize the proposed tourist commercial use, specifically a marina.
     - - Zone change per By-law 77-32, as amended: to Tourist Commercial.
     - - Zone change per By-law 2005-120, as amended: to Tourist Commercial.
   - Location: Part Lot 11, Concession 7, Harcourt Township, (Little Straggle Lake - 2199 Sumcott Road).
   - This application is a condition of application for consent H-011/2006.

2. Lands of 970274 Ontario Inc.:
   - Purpose and Effect: to consider a proposed amendment to Zoning By-law 77-32, as amended and Zoning By-law 2005-120, as amended.
     - - To permit use of the property for highway commercial purposes, specifically a retail store, a take-out restaurant and a self-service storage building.
     - - Zone change per By-law 77-32, as amended: to Highway Commercial Exception __ (CH__), with the following site specific zone provisions:
       - - Dwellings per lot: 0
       - - Building setback, interior side: 5 feet
       - - Building setback, rear: 15 feet
   - Zone change per By-law 2005-120, as amended: to Highway Commercial Exception __ (CH__), with the following site specific zone provisions:
     - - Minimum lot area: 0.41 acres
     - - Minimum Lot frontage: 60 feet
     - - Dwellings per lot: 0
   - Location: Part Lot 11, Concession 6, Harburn Township, (Fort Irwin - 5018 Haliburton Lake Road).

- **IF A PERSON OR PUBLIC BODY** that files an appeal of a decision of the Municipality of Dysart et al in respect of the proposed zoning by-law, does not make oral submissions at a public meeting or make written submissions to the Municipality of Dysart et al before the proposed zoning by-law is adopted, the Ontario Municipal Board may dismiss all or part of the appeal.

- **FURTHER INFORMATION:** including the draft by-law is available from the Planning Department at the Municipality Office during regular office hours (8:30 am to 4:30 pm, Monday to Friday) or by phoning 705-457-1740.

Note: By-law 2005-120, as ameneded is a new Comprehensive Zoning By-law for the Municipality of Dysart et al, passed by Council on December 12th, 2005. Once By-law 2005-120, as amended is in full force and effect, it will replace the current Comprehensive Zoning By-law, By-law 77-32, as amended. Until that time, by-law amendments must be passed to both zoning by-laws.

Dated at the Township of Dysart, this 7th day of February, 2006.

Patricia Martin, B.E.S., MCIP, RPP
Municipal Planner

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Family Services of Haliburton County

You have the opportunity to make a difference in the life of a young person in Haliburton County... now! Family Services of Haliburton County is currently recruiting volunteers in the following positions: Kid Kompanion, Mentor, Tutor or Volunteer Driver.
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Winner nets $750 in lake trout derby

community news

wilberforce legion

Mel Smith

The annual Pat and Phyllis Gallen Lake Trout Ice Fishing Derby was a great success. One hundred and fifty contestants took to the ice at $10 a person. John Sorensen and Mack Hughes, who worked the derby, did a great job.

There were three cash winners. First prize: Ashlee Tripp won $750 with a 2.020 kg Trout, Esson Lake. Second prize: Krista Maughan won $450 with a 1.675 kg Trout, Esson Lake. Third prize: Darin Mucelow won $300 with a 1.555 kg Trout, Farqhuar Lake.

Now if you do the math you will see that every cent that came into this contest, went back out in prize money. But there was hundreds of dollars in other prizes, too. More importantly everyone seemed to be having a good time.

Just as soon as John Sorensen advises me of the next sporting event I will notify you through this column.

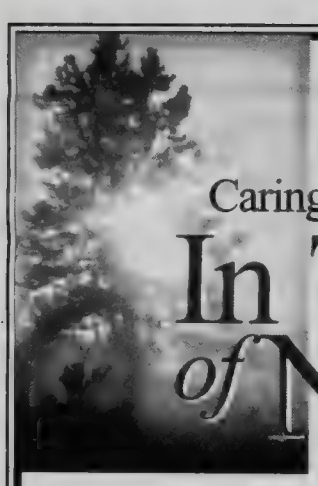
The Super Bowl Party was well-attended.

On February 12 the Ladies Auxiliary will be putting on an All You Can Eat Brunch, from 9 a.m. until noon at the Legion. Adults $6, children $3 and children younger than six eat free. For this you get eggs (as you like them), ham, bacon, pancakes, homefries, toast and coffee or tea.

Monday is fun pool night starting at 7 p.m. Tuesday is the executive meeting at 7 p.m. Wednesday is fun darts night starting at 7 p.m. Thursday is competitive darts night starting at 7 p.m. Saturday is the meat draw starting at 3 p.m.

Eco-boost

The 4Cs chairperson Ave Petch is happy to receive $183.50 from Sir Sandford Fleming College students Nate Smelle and Kathryn Nelder. The money was raised from the Eco-Synergy event hosted at the college's Great Hall in mid-November. Local potter Thom Lambert and students donated work that was sold for the fundraiser. Local merchants Maple Moon and Wintergreen participated and contributed to the event. Photo, Darren Lum.



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50 BEST EMPLOYERS IN CANADA 2006
REPORT ON BUSINESS

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Snowmobile cookout brings back memories

First sled was made of plywood and galvanized water pipe

Winter in the forest is always a wonder to behold and it often prompts fond memories. As we headed for the Paudash Trail Blazers Annual Cookout on Sunday, the snow-laden trees took me on a trip back in time that spanned more than 40 years of snowmobile riding.

I remembered so clearly my first introduction to snowmobiles. It was in 1964 when my father, Elwin Oakes, built a snowmobile. In the '60s snowmobiling became a popular sport and when Dad found plans to build a snowmobile in a *Popular Mechanics* magazine he could not resist. He constructed the hull from plywood and used wooden skies on the front. The contraption was steered by a piece of galvanized water pipe and I believe it was powered by an old gas powered washing machine motor. That old wooden sled is long gone but not the memories.

I have a long-standing passion for snowmobiling that comes from within. I have felt this strong pull since 1969 when I bought my first snowmobile, an Olympic Bombardier SkiDoo, for just slightly more than $800 brand new. If you rode snowmobiles in the late '60s you will likely remember the challenges of keeping them running: the noise, top speed that didn't threaten 40 mph and how stiff, sore and worn down you were from riding the poor trails. With all the snow we have received recently the groomed trails have been alive with hundreds of snowmobiles of many makes and models, all capable of travelling speeds that far exceed 40 mph.

community news

harcourt

Valerie Smith
448-3640

It was a great trip with friends Tammy and Lyle and it was excellent to see the cookout so well-attended.

While talking about snowmobiling, I want to remind you about the radar runs held every Saturday and Sunday from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. at Elephant Lake Lodge. For more information call the lodge at 448-2861.

Throughout Haliburton Highlands the Food for Kids Program in our elementary schools continues to thrive. Food For Kids is a community partnership comprised of local committee members who work with parent councils, principals and school staff to develop programs to help ensure that every child in Haliburton County is well-nourished and ready to learn. Each week Food for Kids provides thousands of healthy snacks and breakfasts for our students.

The reasons children come to school hungry are varied but do include such things as rushed mornings, long bus rides, parents' work schedules and, for some children, little food at home. All these reasons play into the need for a healthy breakfast or snack at school. It has been proven that the benefits of a school snack program can lead to improved attendance, improved social skills, greater interest in healthy eating and increased consumption of nutritious foods. For breakfast and snack programs to continue to be successful donations and the assistance of volunteers are always needed. If you would like to learn more about Food for Kids please contact Karen Phipps, public health food worker, at 457-1391.

The staff and students of Wilberforce Elementary School wish to extend appreciation to John Bowers of Harcourt for his strong support of the Food for Kids program.

On Friday, February 10, Cupid will draw back his bow and let his arrow fly marking the Harcourt Community Centre's St. Valentine's pre-teen dance. There are so many stories as to the origin of St. Valentine's Day. Some say that it all started with St. Valentine, a Roman who was respected and remembered for refusing to give up Christianity. He died many years ago on February 14, the same day that had been devoted to love lotteries. Legend also claims that St. Valentine left a farewell note for the jailer's daughter, who was his friend, and signed it, "from your Valentine." There are many other versions of the story however; in 496 A.D. Pope Gelasius set aside February 14 to honour St. Valentine. Over the years February 14 became the date for sending valentine cards and simple gifts such as flowers or chocolates. Don't forget to invite your favourite valentine to the dance. Children aged 7 to 16 are welcome. Time: 8 p.m. to 11 p.m. Cost $3. Come out and join the fun.

The Highlands East Art and Craft Tour 2006 is fast approaching and artists are wanted to be part of the tour. For more information please call Ev at 448-2493, Jan at 448-2868, Marilyn at 447-2569 or Archie at 447-3241. Last year's tour was a great success.

If you have any item of interest to share and you wish to submit it for the next Harcourt and community news, please e-mail vsmith.rhapsody@sympatico.ca or call 705-448-3640.

Upcoming events at the Harcourt Community Centre include:

February 8: bingo starting at 7:30 p.m. For more information call Debbie Shatraw at 448-3155.

February 9: Progressive euchre Thursday evenings starting at 7:30 p.m. For further information please call Mel Smith at 448-3640.

February 10: pre-teen dance.

The Harcourt Community Centre is a smoke-free establishment. Therefore, both the bingo and progressive euchre are smoke-free evenings. Please keep in mind that a break is provided on both nights in order that people might smoke outdoors and not miss any of the action these events provide.

Car club helps out

In keeping with the Haliburton Highlands Time Travellers' tradition of supporting the communities of Minden and Haliburton, the car club recently made donations to three community groups: $500 to the Haliburton Highlands Health Services Foundation, $250 to the Minden Food Bank and $250 to the 4Cs food bank. Here, club president Karl Feuerpfeil (right) presents the cheque to 4Cs director Ian Unsworth. Photo submitted.

Syrup workshop Feb. 20

Learn how to start a maple syrup operation

Woodlot owners and outdoor enthusiasts interested in learning more about starting up a maple syrup operation or expanding an existing one are invited to a workshop on Monday, February 20 at the Dorset Community Centre. The workshop starts at 9 a.m. and goes to 3:30 p.m.

The morning sessions will cover topics such as woodlot management and forest health, what's new in syrup equipment and technology, food safety tips and marketing your syrup products. After a hot lunch of pancakes, sausages and, of course, local maple syrup, participants will be taken on an afternoon field trip to a local 1,200-tap family sugarbush operation near Dorset. Participants will have an opportunity to view a tap line and sugar shack layout, discuss forest health concerns and receive tips on setting up for the syrup season.

Pre-registration for this workshop is required, with a cost of $20 per person which includes lunch, take home materials and the field trip.

The event is sponsored by the Haliburton Highlands Stewardship Council in partnership with the Parry Sound-Muskoka Stewardship Network and the Ministry of Natural Resources.

Registration and coffee begins at 8:30 a.m. with the workshop starting at 9 a.m. sharp and ending at 3:30 p.m.. As this workshop has sold out five years in a row, we strongly recommend you register early. For more information or to register, please contact Nicole Tuyten, Haliburton Highlands Stewardship Coordinator, at (705) 286-5206 or e-mail Nicole.tuyten@mnr.gov.on.ca.

Lindsay man fined $1,500 for duck hunting violations

A third duck hunter has been fined $1,500. and banned from hunting waterfowl for one year.

Stephen Woodcock, 47, of Lindsay, pleaded guilty to hunting within 400 metres of a baited area and failing to immediately retrieve birds that had been killed.

Two other hunters involved in the same incident were fined and given the same ban when they appeared in court last December.

Court heard that on September 17, 2005, the opening day of waterfowl season in that region, Ministry of Natural Resources conservation officer from Minden discovered the men duck hunting at a pond in Lutterworth Township. The pond had been pre-baited with corn and grain.

Court also ordered $500 of the total fine be paid to Ducks Unlimited for waterfowl management projects in Ontario.

Baiting is done to attract waterfowl to ponds or waterways so that birds become accustomed to feeding at the site. It is legal to bit up to 14 days prior to the start of waterfowl hunting season. On this opening morning, the three hunters had an unfair advantage.

Justice of the Peace Jack Wiley heard the case in the Ontario Court of Justice, Minden, on February 2, 2006.

Call 1-877-TIPS-MNR (847-7667) toll-free 24 hours a day to report natural resource violations or contact your local ministry office during regular business hours. You can also call Crime Stoppers at 1-800-222-TIPS (8477).

THE ECHO Classifieds

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CA

ESTATE SALE – Tractor accessories (All PTO driven /3 pt. hitch); 60" bush hog, $750.; 66"x36"h field roller, $350.; 24" wood splitter, $450.; Ford post hole digger, 10" auger, $250.; 96" wide snowblower, $200.; Back hoe w/16" bucket, $250.; New Craftex lathe/mill combination w/stand/tools and chest $1,200.; Canox Migmatic 150 (mig welder), accessories, $500.; 4'x8' trailer (new), $250.; 14' Springbok aluminum boat/trailer, $300.; Bishanom 4 post hydraulic car lift, 3000 lbs capacity, new motor, (come see it working), $2,000. Call 447–2988, Wayne or Peggy.

MOVING SALE – Contents of 3 bdrm. home, everything must go, including vintage items. Call 457–9580 for appointment to view.

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1997 CHRYSLER TOWN & COUNTRY VAN – Auto., 3.8L, V6, leather, 4 captains chairs, all power options, keyless entry, running boards, 250,000 km, certified, $3,800. o.b.o. Call 457–9141.

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MXZ SKI-DOO – 2634 km 1997. Excellent condition, Xtra windshield, new rear shock and tune-up, asking $2,400. Call 457–4621.

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140 REAL ESTATE

ESTATE SALE; House for sale – Mostly all contents going. Livingroom furn., queen size bedroom set, double bed, wooden outdoor lawn furniture, fishing equipment, power auger, lamps, tables, woodsplitter, trailer, 3 dimensional grouse oil painting on canvas, tools, saws, fishing hut, lumber, firewood, BBQ, carpet, TV, wardrobes, pantry, plants, riding lawn mower, perennials, TV armoire and more. Phone (705) 448–9672 for more info or other items.

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2002 Hyundai Elantra,	*4 dr., 4cyl., 70,000K*	$ 8,995.
2003 Chev. Impala,	*4 dr., 70,000K*	$11,900.
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2000 Buick Century,	*4 dr., 121,000K*	$ 6,995.

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220 CHILD CARE

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NIA CLASSES – Saturday, Feb. 4th, 18th & Mar. 4th, 3:15 - 4 p.m.; Friday, Feb. 10th, 24th & Mar. 10th, 1:15 - 2 p.m. Through movement we find health. Please call Julie at 457–1990 for more information or to register.

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290 COMING EVENTS

HALIBURTON LEGION POOL LEAGUE
Every Wednesday evening at 7:00 p.m.
Starting December 7, 2005
Members and Guests.
For information please contact Chris Briggs.
457–1724
CA

ICE HUT RENTALS – Lake Kashagawigamog. Weekdays only. Call 457–9798.
CA

IGNITE YOUR VALENTINE
at the Wintergreen Pancake Barn on
Saturday, February 18th
6:30 - 10 p.m.
An intimate affair for a special valentine rendezvous with your one and only love.
A romantic dinner infused with an evening fling of love stories, sensory experiences and fun escapades.
• For adult couples
• Virgin cocktails, Hors D'oeuvres, Dinner, Dessert, Coffee/Tea
• Reserved seating until Feb. 15
• Includes a complimentary gift basket
• $65.00 per person, taxes included
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290 COMING EVENTS

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2006 CONCERT SERIES
Stephen Fearing
Saturday, February 25, 2006
8:00 p.m.
Northern Lights Performing Arts Pavilion
Tickets $20.
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Every Wednesday
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7:00pm sharp
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$1000 JACKPOT
WED. MARCH 1st

290 COMING EVENTS

WEST GUILFORD SNOW SHUFFLE
February 25, 2006
Register 9:30 a.m. - 12 p.m.
Advance tickets $20. each available at
West Guilford Shell Station and West Guilford Shopping Centre.
For more info call Greg Cooper **754–3210.**
CA

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Call 457-1037 or Fax 457-3275

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INDOOR CONTENTS SALE
held on
February 11 from
10 a.m. to 4 p.m.
1076 Lutterworth Pines Road
just south of Minden turn left on
Lutterworth Pines Road
and follow around.
Some Items:
Couch matching chair,
kitchen table and four chairs,
kitchen accessories,
mens coats and shoes,
wheel chair,
3 wheel electric scooter,
bathroom aides, bed rail,
household items, tools, model
jaguars, other models, and other
misc. items.

CA

INDOOR YARD SALE
at Pasta-ta-Pizza
February 11 & 12 from
10 a.m. until 2 p.m.
Everything for sale!

340 AUCTIONS/FLEA MARKETS

FIREARMS AUCTION
Saturday, February 11th
10:00 a.m.
At Switzer's Auction Centre, 25414
Hwy. #62,
10 Minutes south of Bancroft, 40
min. north of Madoc.
See a complete listing of Restricted Handguns, Antique Handguns & Long Guns, Sporting Rifles, Shotguns, Bayonets, Knives, Ammunition, Flintlock & Percussion Pistols & Long Guns, Military Collectibles and more at: www.switzersauction.com. **Paul Switzer Auctioneer/Appraiser, 332-5581 or (1-800) 694-2609.**

CA

400 NOTICE TO CREDITORS

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
AND OTHERS
IN THE MATTER
OF THE ESTATE OF
PETER JOHNSON DOUGLAS,
deceased.

All creditors and others having claims against the Estate of PETER JOHNSON DOUGLAS, late of the township of Dysart, in the County of Haliburton, who died on or about the 10th day of June, 2004, are required to file the particulars of such claims with the undersigned solicitors for the said Estate on or before the 15th day of March, 2006.

AND take notice that after the last day named, the assets of the said Estate, will be distributed among the persons hereto entitled having regard only to the claims of which the Trustee for the Estate being Scott James Harold Douglas, shall have notice.

DATED at Haliburton, Ontario this 31st day of January, 2006 by BISHOP AND ROGERS, Barristers and Solicitors, P.O. Box 472, 238 Highland St., Haliburton, Ontario, K0M 1S0. Solicitor for the Trustee of the Estate of Peter Johnson Douglas.

CA

440 THANK YOU

HALIBURTON HIGHLANDERS PIPES & DRUMS – would like to thank all our sponsors at our Robbie Burns night.
1) Carnarvon Building Supplies Ltd.; 2) Highland Images; 3) I.G.A. Haliburton; 4) Independent Grocers; 5) Kitchen Etcetera; 6) Master's Book Store; 7) The Photo Shop; 8) V&S Department Store.

Put the Classifieds to work for you!

440 THANK YOU

I WISH TO EXPRESS my gratitude to everyone who helped care for Ian during his lengthy illness. The medical staff at H.H.S.S. Emergency and Acute Care departments and especially to Dr. Hartwick for his care and support to both Ian and myself. To Paramed nursing staff for their tenderness and expertise enabling Ian to remain at home. To the Gordon Monk Funeral Home for the thoughtful professionalism. To my neighbours, friends and colleagues for there kindness, tributes, flowers, cards, letters, phone calls and gifts of food and also being there for me during this difficult time. Thanks to one and all **Margaret Wood.**

450 IN MEMORIAM

BOWEN, LLOYD – In loving memory of my dear husband who passed away February 9, 2002.
As time unfolds another year
Memories keep you ever near.
Silent thoughts of times together
Hold memories that will last forever.
Always remembered and forever loved by **Mary**.

HARTIN, WILLIAM (Bill) – In loving memory of a dear husband, father and grandfather who passed away Feb. 12, 2004.
Always a smile, instead of a frown,
Always a hand when one was down.
Always true, thoughtful and kind,
Wonderful memories he left behind.
Sadly missed by wife Donna, children and grandchildren.

McNEIL, MERREIT SR. – Who passed into God's Hands Feb. 13, 1998.
Gone are the days we used to share,
But in our hearts you are always there,
The gates of memory will never close,
We miss you more than anymore knows,
With tender love and deep regret,
We who love you will never forget,
Sadly missed by your loving daughter and family. **Reta, Ken, Joyce, Tom, Trisha and Craig.**

ROBERTON, ELWIN – In memory of a dear Dad Elwin Roberton, Dec. 14, 1906 to Feb. 9, 1982.
Will always be loved and lovingly remembered.
Karen & Don.

TEATRO, VINCENT "Duke" STAFFORD – In loving memory of a dear father who God called home Feb. 9, 1978.
28 years have passed
Dear Dad since God called you home.
He has you in his keeping
But we have you in our hearts
God's garden must be beautiful
He only takes the best.
Love **Jack and Family.**

460 OBITUARIES

AT REST
ALICE LILLIAN
(nee Roylance) KIDD
Passed away peacefully at Extendicare, Haliburton on Tuesday, January 31, 2006.
In her 97th year.

Beloved wife of the late Elwood Kidd and Verdon Carstead. Dear mother of Carole and her husband Bob Bullen (predeceased) and the late Barbara Sands. A grateful thanks to the staff at Extendicare, Haliburton. A Private Family Graveside Service will be held at the Park Lawn Cemetery, Toronto on Monday, February 6, 2006. A Memorial Service will be held at Extendicare, Haliburton at a later date. Memorial donations to Community Care, Haliburton County would be appreciated and can be arranged through the Gordon A. Monk Funeral Home Ltd., 127 Main St., P.O. Box 427, Minden, Ontario K0M 2K0 or on line at www.gordonmonkfuneralhome.com.

CA

AT REST
BARBARA DOREEN
(nee Hall)
ELDER
Passed away peacefully at her home in Minden on February 3, 2006.
In her 77th year.

Beloved wife of the late James Sinton Elder. Dear mother to Judith Ann Cardwell (Bob), Floyd Thomas, James Michael (Julie), Sheila Kathleen Carrell (Jim). Cherished grandmother and great grandmother to Brianna, Brandy, Sean, Andrew, Jeffrey, Jessica, Laura and Owen. Treasured Grannie to her extended grandchildren and great grandchildren. Loved sister to Elizabeth Bessant and to brother Donald Hall (Eleanor). Friends are invited to visit the family at the Gordon A. Monk Funeral Home Ltd., 127 Main St., Minden K0M 2K0 (1-888) 588-5777 (or on line at www.gordonmonkfuneralhome.com) on Tuesday evening from 7 until 9 p.m. A service to celebrate her life will take place in our Chapel on Wednesday, February 8, 2006 at 11:00 a.m. Cremation has taken place. Interment will take place at Dean Cemetery, Edinburgh, Scotland. In lieu of flowers, memorial donations to the Minden Food Bank or the Minden United Church would be appreciated by the family.

CA

Echo Fax: 457-3275

THE DEADLINE FOR CLASSIFIEDS is Friday at 5 p.m.

• • •

Fax us at 457-3275

OR

Phone us at 457-1037

community calendar

What's happening in the Highlands

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Owned and Operated by Dwaine & Lori Lloyd

CURRENT EVENTS

• **Now until March 3:** Ontario Early Years Haliburton is offering 8 Swim and Gym sessions for families with children 0-6 years at the Wigamog Inn. Splish, Splash, and Play! Families that play together stay fit together. Join us Friday mornings starting January 13 to Mar. 3 by registering at our Early Learning Centre 457-2989.
• **Feb. 8:** The Regular Meeting of the Haliburton Highlands Genealogy Group will be held Wednesday, February 8th. Doors open at 6 p.m., speaker at 7 p.m. Note new location: the Minden Hills Cultural Centre - enter by the back door. The speaker will be Tom Dawson of Wintergreen speaking about maple syrup production. No charge - everyone welcome. For more info contact Gail Leach-Wunker at 286-2225.
• **Feb. 9:** Minden Well Baby Drop-In Clinic. Visit with a Family Health Nurse to see how your baby is growing and developing. Held at the Ontario Early Years Centre in Minden (inside Sears Building) from 10 a.m. to noon. For more info., call the Health Unit at 457-1391.
• **Feb. 9:** The public is invited to a very special meeting presented by CFUW Haliburton (the local Chapter of the Canadian Federation of University Women. 7 p.m. at Fleming College. The topic is a vital one for all of us – "Planning for an Influenza Pandemic". Speaker is well known locally – Robin Anthony. She is Infection Control Practitioner for Haliburton Highlands. (Refreshments will be served.)
• **Feb. 11:** Tall Pines Snowmobile Club & Lions Camp Dorset – Poker Rally & St. Valentine's Dance. Sat., Feb. 11, 10 a.m. Over $10,000 in prizes. Pre-registration: Fri. 6 p.m. - 10 p.m. Registration: Sat. 10 a.m. - 12 p.m. OFSC Trail permits required. Adults only (19+) after 6 p.m. For more info call Barb (705) 766-2108, Donna (705) 766-9253. www.tallpines.org. Proceeds to aid Kidney Dialysis, Lions Camp Dorset.
• **Feb. 11 & 12:** Gravenhurst Minor Hockey Association is hosting a Tyke Tournament. On Sat., Feb. 11, 8 a.m. to 8 p.m.; Sun., Feb. 12, 8 a.m. to 12 p.m. There are twelve teams participating including three Gravenhurst home teams. Other teams participating are from Bracebridge, Orillia, Caledonia and the Highland Storm, Coldwater and Newmarket. For more info, contact GMHA media person Steve Barnes at 684-9673.
• **Feb. 13:** "Men's Coffee and Conversation" grief support group. Drop by for coffee and conversation from 7:00 - 8:00 p.m. at 112 McLaughlin Rd. Lindsay. Call Palliative Care Victoria at 324-2811 for information.
• **Feb. 14:** The Haliburton Highlands Handweavers and Spinners invite you to their monthly meetings on the 2nd Tuesday of the month, Tuesday, Feb. 14th at 1:30 p.m. General Meeting at Pritchard House Minden.
• **Feb. 14:** "CrossRoads" grief support group for the newly bereaved from 1:00 - 2:00 p.m. at 112 McLaughlin Rd., Lindsay. Call Palliative Care Victoria at 324-2811 for information.
• **Feb. 16:** Minden Well Baby Drop-In Clinic. Visit with a Family Health Nurse to see how your baby is growing and developing. Held at the Ontario Early Years Centre in Haliburton (Halco Plaza) from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. For more info., call the Health Unit at 457-1391.

ON GOING EVENTS

• **The Haliburton Highlands Prostate Cancer Support Group** meets the 3rd Tuesday of every month at 7 p.m. in the Fireside Lounge at the Highland Crest Senior Citizen's home in Minden. All men and the women who love them are welcome. For info. please contact Rick Ratcliff at 286-6699.
• **Do you like to sing?** No experience necessary. Outloud Womyn's voices invites all women to join them every Tuesday at 6 p.m. Meetings held at the Zion United Church in Carnarvon. For further information, call Beth at 754-9558.
• **Community Care** has a trip planned for May 24 to the World Premier performance of The Lord of the Rings. This trip includes transportation by highway coach, tickets in row D, E, & F in the dress circle section of the Princess of Wales Theatre, and a delicious dinner at the Town and Country Restaurant. To travel with Community Care you must be a Trip Club Member, please call to find out more information about this trip club. Call 457-2941.
• **Wednesdays – Aquasize** classes have now begun. Community Care still has spots open for the Wednesday classes. Enjoy low impact exercises in the water. Classes re one hour in length and take place at the Wigamog Inn. Please call Ida for more information 457-2941.

Events listings are provided **FREE** for non-profit groups on a space-available basis. While we endeavour to accommodate requests for publication, we cannot guarantee that all requests for listings will appear. Requests should be faxed to The Echo at 457-3275, emailed to editor@haliburtonecho.ca., or brought in to the office. **Please submit events by the Thursday prior to the requested publication date.**
NOTE: This calendar is not a comprehensive listing of all events taking place in the area. Please check the classified pages, display advertising and articles appearing elsewhere in the Echo for more information on events in the Highlands.

457-1011
1-800-465-2984 • HALIBURTON

286-2911
1-800-567-1985 • MINDEN

754-4242
KENNISIS LAKE

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Anything less is second best!

View us on the internet at:

www.remax-haliburtonhighlands.com

E-mail: hilands@halhinet.on.ca

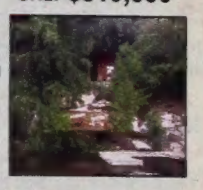
Julie Gray*
Marilyn Hawley
457-1011
exts. 230 & 237

HARBURN ROAD — $275,000

This beautiful country retreat is privately nestled in a 2 acre lot surrounded by hardwood forest just 5 minutes from the Village of Haliburton. Spacious LR & bdrms w/lots of windows, hardwood floors in kitchen & DR, main LR, FR with cedar accents, FP & w/o to lrg deck. Unfinished bsmt for storage, double attached garage & screened sun porch. Recently reshingled roof.

GRASS LAKE — ONLY $319,000

Charming 2-3 bdrm cottage nestled on an Algonquin style lot with good privacy, clean rock frontage on a 5 lake chain minutes from village. All natural pine interior, hardwood floors, all new windows, roof & septic. Western exposure, huge bunkie, stone patio overlooking lake & large party deck. This has everything!



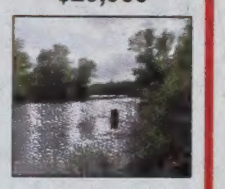
Troy Austen*
Linda Baumgartner*
457-1011
ext. 231

SOUTH BAY - HALIBURTON LAKE — $319,000

Year-round waterfront home or cottage. Enjoy the sunsets and the gorgeous view of the lake from the sandy shore. Level lot ideal for all family members. Insulated bunkie, large garage, good privacy.

GULL RIVER — $29,900

Nicely treed, level lot fronting on navigable river. Good WF for swimming & boating. Located on a year-round, privately maintained road with Southern exposure.



Bill Kulas*
286-2911
ext. 44

BOSHKUNG LAKE — LISTED AT $295,000

This 4 season Viceroy cottage/home features a guest Bunkie, stone fireplace, large sunroom & a great shoreline with deep water & a stunning sunset view. Miles of boating on this scenic 3 lake chain.

List for results and buy with confidence. Call Bill Kulas today.

HALIBURTON SELF STORAGE — ASKING $349,500

Newly built, 39 unit storage facility. 2x6 construction with steel cladding & roof, moveable wall panels & an extra lot for expansion.

List for results and buy with confidence. Call Bill Kulas today.

Ken Barry** & Deb Deremo*
457-1011
exts. 228 & 232

DEEDED ACCESS TO KUSHOG — $149,900

Recently finished 2 bdrm cottage on 20 acres shows to perfection! Bright & cheery open concept w/wood laminate flooring & airtight wood stove. Property has rolling terrain, hilltop views & deeded big lake access. It might just be the affordable retreat you've been looking for!

KASHAGAWIGAMOG — $279,900

3 bdrm cottage on prestigious 5-lake chain. Cozy ambience with hardwood flooring, updated kitchen, wood stove, attached sun room. Detached bunkie to accommodate guests, oversized dock at water's edge, mature trees & a south-west exposure are the perfect compliment to lakeside enjoyment.

Cathy Lancia*
754-4242

ROUND LOG COTTAGE/ HOME ON PELAW LAKE — NOW $699,700

Part of 3 lake Redstone chain. Level property, 220' sand frtg, well treed, natural landscape. Priv. & quiet setting, screened gazebo. Oversized garage. Incl. A/C FAO furnace, HRV, drilled well, softener, 200 amp service, metal roof, solid pine stairs, unique fixtures, log stairways & railings, floor-to-ceiling reclaimed brick FP, 3 baths & storage.

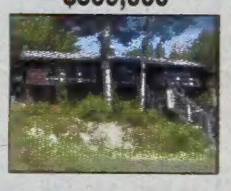
BEAUTIFUL WATERFRONT ACREAGE — NOW $299,700

On Big Redstone Lake w/over 400 ft frontage & 8 acres of well wooded property. One side has an awesome rock ridge for privacy, the other side is a gradual slope to the lakefront. Dirveway is in & site is arranged. Clean shoreline has rock & sand bottom. Lovely western view up East Bay. Prime waterfront acreage don't miss it.

Geoff Bunn*
457-1011
ext. 242

176 ACRE RETREAT — $599,000

Located minutes from the town of Haliburton. This 3 bedroom home/cottage sits close to the shoreline of Bonham Lake. The cottage is full of old country charm w/wood interior & cathedral ceilings. For more information call Geoff Bunn.



Rick Lowes*
286-2911
ext. 47

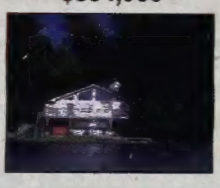
12 MILE LAKE WATERFRONT

Level, private and beautiful sand beach, good building site. Miles of boating, great fishing and swimming. CALL NOW.

$199,900

KUSHOG LAKE NEW PRICE! — $354,900

Custom built executive 3 bedroom cottage / home. Loads of extras includes, bass boat, paddle boat and ski boat. CALL NOW!



Fred Chapple*
286-2911
ext. 43

SWEET & COZY — $159,500

Older home, 2 bdrm, family kitchen, lots of windows, level lot, all on oak floor. Nice workshop. Older metal septic tank, but still operational.

A GREAT RENTAL OPPORTUNITY — $124,900

Here is your chance to own a home which boasts "old-world charm". 4 bedrooms + lots of room to roam. Has commercial C-1 zoning – start your own home business.

Karen Nimigon*
457-1011
ext. 224

MOORE LAKE — $319,000

Charmingly country 4 season waterfront cottage/home. Wood walls, cathedral ceiling, well designed kitchen. Sunken living room w/wood stove & w/o to deck, full basement, single car garage & workshop, 3-lake chain, sand shoreline, cedar dock & easy access to snowmobile trails. Why wish & wait? Call Karen today to view.

Victor Disik*
286-2911
ext. 45

MINDEN RURAL — ASKING $289,500

Custom built 3 bdrm bungalow on a private 5 acre property. Bright & spacious open concept design. Master bdrm features a 3 piece ensuite & w/o to a sun room. Full finished bsmnt, 2-car attached garage + single car detached garage, large deck, hot tub room & much, much more. For appointment call Victor Disik.

SOUTH LAKE — $269,000

This year round cottage/home is about 2 hours to Toronto & only minutes to Minden. A very large kitchen makes entertaining enjoyable. The 3 bdrms are a good size in this 1200 sq ft home. Close to skiing, snowmobile trails & more. This Lake boasts very good bass fishing. Come see for yourself. Ask for Victor Disik.

Elizabeth Thompson*
457-1011
ext. 248

CENTURY FARMHOUSE — $219,000

Quaint 5 bdrm home located on Hwy #118 across from Green Lake, a 3 lake chain. Great 4 acre retreat property. House has loads of character. Enjoy the breeze & lake view from the front porch swing. Upgrades in recent years. Lrg loft area can be made into a studio or master suite. New drilled well in 2002. Reshingled in 1997. Call Elizabeth.

Vince Duchene**
457-1011
ext. 225

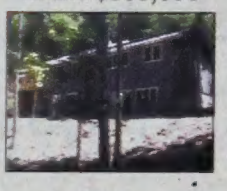
Great 3 bdrm family or retirement home located 15 minutes east of Haliburton on Hwy. #118. This home also features 2 baths, finished rec room with w/o as well as a w/o off the dining room to back deck, large, private backyard and more. Call today for viewing!

$139,900

Ted Vasey*
457-1011
ext. 223

REDSTONE LAKE — ASKING $685,000

New waterfront home with 3570 sq ft of living space. Open concept with cathedral ceilings, hardwood floors, 2 stone fireplaces, custom design kitchen, master bdrm ensuite, elegant decor, 4 bdrms, main floor laundry, w/o FR, sand shoreline, sunsets, year-round road.



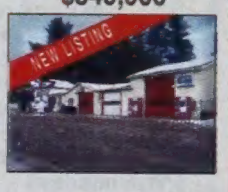
MINDEN - BOBCAYGEON ROAD — ASKING $179,000

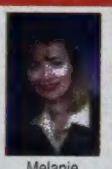
Like new 3 bdrm raised bungalow, 1196 sq ft, maple kitchen, hardwood floors, master bdrm ensuite, main floor laundry, w/o bsmt, some small finishing touches needed.

Lenor Fulton *
Tracy Ackerblade*
286-2911
exts. 23 & 46

SERVICE STATION IN GOODERHAM — $349,900

This commercial property, zoned C1, is a great opportunity to be your own boss. it boasts a 3-bay garage complete with a hoist and tools to run your own automotive business. Also incl. in the purchase price is a 2 bedroom home with new basement windows and a new oil furnace. Please call Tracy or Lenor.





Melanie Vigrass*
286-2911
ext. 40

DAVIS LAKE ROAD

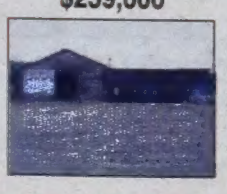
Two lots (6.9 acres and 6.1 acres) on year round Township road with hydro at lot line and backing onto crown land. Call Melanie for details.

$16,900/each

Linda Beachli***
457-1011
ext. 227

COMMERCIAL — $259,000

19 acres including a 440 sq ft shop with upgraded hydro & out buildings. Just east of Haliburton & ready to your business.



CUSTOM HOME — $449,000

Quality of workmanship throughout this custom built home offering 4 bdrms, open concept main floor for entertaining & all on 21 acres of privacy in Haliburton Village. Gorgeous stone fireplace indoors & wonderful cedar decks outdoors for relaxation.

Peter Brady**
457-1011
ext. 234

COMMERCIAL — $695,000

Fantastic location just south of Minden on Hwy 35. Established shops totalling 7300 sq ft incl. office space. Additional lots included with industrial and commercial zoning. Over 10 acres in all.

LODGE/FAMILY RESORT — $1,250,000

Enjoy the sunny beach, stroll the 660 ft shoreline & explore the 40 acres of land. Retire to the large 8 bdrm lodge with dining room, games room & large kitchen. There is also a Managers Residence & 11 cabins & tennis court.